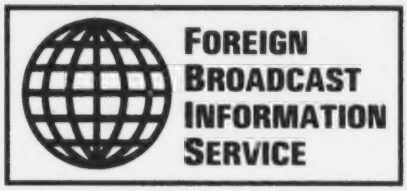

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Bush Attends Beginning of Pershing Elimination

LD0909160488 Moscow TASS in English 1440 GMT 9 Sep 88

[Text] Marshall, Texas, September 9 TASS—TASS special correspondent Igor Borisenko writes:

A process of eliminating U.S. intermediate-range missiles Pershing began at the Army ammunition plant Longhorn near the Texan city of Marshall on September 8 under the provisions of the INF Treaty.

The plant is one of three facilities in the United States where intermediate-range missiles will be eliminated. Pershing-1A and Pershing-2 missiles will be eliminated at this plant and at Pueblo depot, and ground-launched cruise missiles and their launchers will be eliminated at the Davis Monthan Air Force Base, Arizona.

At ten a.m. a command was given to fire a Pershing-2 missile motor. Soil vibration was felt even at a distance of 400 metres away from missile. Sixty-two seconds later the fuel of the first stage of the Pershing-2 was used up. After a 15-minute interval a command was given to fire the motor of the first stage of a Pershing-1A missile. There was applause on the platform for the guests.

The ceremony was attended by U.S. Vice-President George Bush. Addressing those present he stated that, upon the elimination of a whole class of nuclear missiles, references to intermediate-range missiles would remain only in history manuals. However, the vice-president in his speech again voiced the idea about the need to modernize the American nuclear arsenal.

Accompanied by guests of honor, the vice-president went to a special ground where a flame-darkened missile stage was brought. The missile stage casing was then placed into the eliminator—a high-powered hydraulic press. The operator pressed the button on the control panel, and the steel plates began to crush the missile casing.

Lieutenant Colonel Allen Germaine, senior officer at the Longhorn plant, handed over a piece of the torn metal to the vice-president as a souvenir.

"The Soviet-U.S. INF Treaty has entered a new phase of realization," N. Shabalin, deputy head of the Soviet Nuclear Risk Reduction Centre, said in an interview with journalists. "Today we witnessed a memorable event—the start of elimination of American missiles that fall under the action of the INF Treaty. The echo of the explosion at Saryozek in the USSR on August 1, this year, when the elimination of Soviet missiles began, has reached the United States of America."

Levin Optimistic on Strategic Arms Cuts

LD1009113488 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0930 GMT 10 Sep 88

[From the "International Diary" program, presented by Georgiy Alekseyev]

[Excerpts] One of the results of the summit meetings between the leaders of the USSR and the United States was the Treaty on the Elimination of Intermediate- and Shorter-Range Missiles. Both sides have already set about the practical implementation of the provisions of that document. The first U.S. Pershing-1A and Pershing-2 missiles were destroyed near the Army ammunition production works at Longhorn, in the U.S state of Texas, on 8 September. I shall ask my colleague Viktor Levin to comment on this event:

[Levin] [Passage omitted] The process of real disarmament has only just begun with the treaty on intermediate- and shorter-range missiles. No less complex tasks, and probably even more complex ones, lie ahead; after all, the treaty on intermediate- and shorter-range missiles envisages the elimination of just 4 percent of the Soviet and U.S. nuclear potential. An agreement on the reduction of strategic offensive arms by 50 percent is not on the agenda. To be sure, reports coming out of Geneva sometimes create the impression that the U.S. side is not displaying great readiness to pursue matters leading to the earliest possible elaboration of a treaty. Against this background, just as during the elaboration of the treaty on intermediate- and shorter-range missiles, the voice of the public is again resounding more and more loudly, and senior political and national figures in both Eastern and Western Europe are speaking out more and more frequently in favor of the quickest possible attainment of an accord between the USSR and the United States. Of course, the elaboration of a treaty on the reduction of strategic offensive arms by 50 percent is very complicated business. But now, when both sides have undertaken the implementation of the treaty on intermediate- and shorter-range missiles, and when a favorable change in the international political climate has occurred, not least thanks to that treaty, I think there are grounds for optimism.

PRAVDA on Role of Nuclear Danger Centers

PM0909133088 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 8 Sep 88 Second Edition p 5

[Gennadiy Vasilyev "Viewpoint" article: "So It Must Be Prevented!"]

[Text] It will soon be a year since a Soviet-American agreement on setting up centers to reduce the nuclear danger and two protocols to it were signed in Washington. Time has shown convincingly how important and necessary this decision was and how organically it is linked to the developing process of real disarmament.

The national centers set up on the basis of this decision are functioning successfully in Moscow and Washington. Staffed with experienced specialists and equipped with facsimile communications, they are in constant contact via satellites. A new mechanism is in operation to give prompt notification of activity in the military sphere that could be incorrectly interpreted by the other side, which, in turn, could cause a stepping up of the nuclear threat. This offers additional opportunities to prevent and eliminate dangerous situations. The centers are used to convey notifications of ballistic missile launches and to "clarify" unclear situations that could cause concern to either side. They were recently enlisted to play an active part in the implementation of the Treaty on the Elimination of Intermediate- and Shorter-Range Missiles: Through the centers, information is exchanged and organizational questions connected with the activity of the inspection groups are resolved.

The nuclear missile age makes special demands, without historical precedent, on political and military leaders, who are responsible for the future of the world. The time available for making decisions in the event of a major crisis can be a matter of minutes. The cost of the decision is enormous. Accurate, speedy information is of key significance.

The Soviet-American agreement on setting up centers to reduce the nuclear danger "grew" out of the accord reached by M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and U.S. President R. Reagan in Geneva in November 1985. It did not spring up out of nothing. Back in the seventies agreements were signed between the USSR and the United States on measures to lessen the danger of the outbreak of nuclear war and prevent incidents on the high seas and in the airspace. Let me remind you also that a hotline has been in existence between the USSR and the United States since 1963, for use by the two countries' leadership in emergencies.

Sufficient information on the international strategic situation generates trust, and trust promotes the attainment of accords on arms reduction. In the 12 months since the agreement was signed, the Soviet-American Treaty on the Elimination of Intermediate- and Shorter-Range Missiles was concluded and came into force and the two countries have made substantial progress in the cause of drafting an agreement on a 50-percent reduction in strategic arms. The agreement sets an example for other steps in the same direction. It would be useful, as the Soviet Union proposes, to set up a European center for reducing the military danger, as a place of cooperation between NATO and the Warsaw Pact. Operating on a permanent basis, such a center could become a useful structure to enhance the reliability of European peace. This, in turn, would promote the resolution of the urgent task of advancing to the substantial reduction of armed forces and conventional arms in Europe—from the Atlantic to the Urals.

The Soviet-American agreement on setting up centers for reducing the nuclear danger is one manifestation of the new political thinking that is becoming part of life. It is based on recognition by the leadership of the Soviet Union and the United States of the fact that there must be no nuclear war. And if nuclear war is unacceptable as an instrument of foreign policy, if it carries the threat of destruction for all mankind, then there is only one solution for the peoples—prevent it!

U.S. General Cited on SDI Modification

LD0809133288 Moscow TASS in English 0954 GMT 8 Sep 88

[Text] New York September 8 TASS—An organization which is in charge of the realization of the "Strategic Defense Initiative" has prepared proposals on the modification of the Star Wars program. This has been reported in an interview with THE NEW YORK TIMES published today by James Abrahamson, lieutenant general of the U.S. Air Force.

According to Lieutenant General Abrahamson, the main changes deal with the simplification of the weapon systems which are to be deployed in outer space. Specifically, earlier it was planned to put into orbit several hundred carrier satellites on which interceptor rockets would be deployed. According to designs, target-detecting and rocket-guiding equipment would also be installed on them. Abrahamson said that the new approach provided for the launching into space of smaller carrier satellites with a smaller number of rockets on board and a less sophisticated guidance mechanism. These and other measures, the general continued, will permit to save some 60 billion dollars on the first stage of the realization of the Star Wars program.

This modification can set at ease the minds of both presidential candidates, as well as many congressmen who express concern over SDI expenditures, General Abrahamson believes. However, the newspaper pointed out, this will not bring down more profound concern expressed by Democrats, in the first place, over the fact that the Star Wars program puts in jeopardy the reaching of arms control agreements with the Soviet Union, and for this reason it is necessary to give it up.

Soviet Team Completes FRG Inspection

LD0909210188 Moscow TASS in English 1542 GMT 9 Sep 88

["Soviet Specialists Complete Military Inspection in FRG"—TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow September 9 TASS—As has been officially announced here, a team of Soviet military inspectors completed today the inspection of a declared area in the FRG's territory.

The inspection was held on the basis of the corresponding provisions of the document of the Stockholm Conference on Confidence- and Security-Building Measures in Europe.

Warsaw Pact, NATO Hold Mandate Talks Meeting
LD1209094088 Moscow TASS in English 0934 GMT 12 Sep 88

[Text] Vienna September 12 TASS—Representatives of the Warsaw Treaty and NATO member countries held a meeting here today within the framework of consultations on elaborating the mandate of the future talks on the reduction of the armed forces and conventional armaments in Europe from the Atlantic to the Urals.

Kashlev on Prospects for Conventional Arms Talks
PM0909104788 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 9 Sep 88 Second Edition p 7

[Interview with Ambassador Yu.B. Kashlev, head of the Soviet delegation at the Vienna NATO-Warsaw Pact talks, by own correspondent B. Dubrovin, under the rubric "Our Interview": "Real Basis. Ambassador Yu.B. Kashlev, Head of Soviet Delegation at Vienna Meeting, Answers PRAVDA Correspondent's Questions"—first four paragraphs are editorial introduction]

[Text] Vienna, Sep—Consultations between the Warsaw Pact and NATO countries on preparing a mandate for new talks on armed forces and conventional arms in Europe have resumed in Vienna after a short break. The consultations began last year at the initiative of the Warsaw Pact Political Consultative Committee and are being conducted within the framework of the all-European Vienna meeting, which is also being held here.

This is a difficult matter—not only because of the geographical, all-European scale, but also because of the complexity of the subject of the future talks, the objectively existing differences in force and arms structure, and the asymmetries and imbalances which it is planned to eliminate in order to move on to major cuts and radical reductions in the level of military confrontation on the continent.

Important elements of the mandate have already been agreed during the consultations: on the aims of future talks, their participants (these will be the 23 countries making up the Warsaw Pact and NATO), the control and exchange of data, the procedure and organizational conditions for the talks, the obligatory international nature of future agreements, and so forth. In general, a large part of the mandate has already been agreed.

B. Dubrovin, PRAVDA correspondent in Austria, asked Ambassador Yu.B. Kashlev, head of the Soviet delegation at the Vienna meeting, to answer a few questions.

[Dubrovin] What specific problems are currently at the center of the consultations, and is there a spirit of constructiveness in the work?

[Kashlev] In the next few weeks we will have to find compromises on two as yet unresolved issues. Namely—what specific troops and arms will be subject to cuts, and the precise area to be covered by the talks.

In August the Warsaw Pact countries took a constructive step in proposing an extensive formula for the subject of the talks—a formula which, in our opinion, takes the two sides' concerns fully into account. It stated that the subject of the talks would be the sides' conventional armed forces, including conventional arms and hardware deployed on land within their territories in Europe from the Atlantic to the Urals. No arms would be excluded from the talks because they might have other capabilities besides conventional ones (we are referring here to dual-purpose weapons, that is). Such arms and hardware would not be placed in a separate category, and the existence of additional capabilities would not constitute grounds for changing the subject of the talks.

The NATO countries insist that it be laid down here that nuclear weapons will not be a subject covered at the talks, along with naval forces and chemical weapons. For our part, we propose stipulating that the talks not cover fighter aircraft, as a purely defensive type of arms. They are not part of a surprise-attack potential and cannot have a negative influence on the security of states in Europe. Their exclusion thereby does not contravene the already agreed aims of the talks, in which the Warsaw Pact and NATO countries are giving priority to the "elimination of offensive potentials for surprise attacks."

As for the claims about the complexity of dividing up aircraft into strike aircraft and fighter aircraft, this question could, if so wished, be resolved at the talks themselves.

At the same time, the subject of the talks must absolutely include all tactical (frontline) strike aircraft, which are to be covered first and foremost as a component in a surprise-attack potential along with tanks and artillery.

[Dubrovin] When can we expect the talks themselves to start?

[Kashlev] The Soviet Union and the other socialist countries recognize the importance of starting talks between the Warsaw Pact and NATO countries as soon as possible. The draft mandate records a decision in principle to hold them next year. Incidentally, the talks should start at the same time and be held in parallel with the talks on expanding confidence- and security-building measures, in which all 35 CSCE countries will participate. Our Vienna meeting should be finished before then, since both sets of talks are part and parcel of its decisions.

The program for armed forces and conventional arms reduction in Europe put forward by the socialist countries at the recent Political Consultative Committee Conference in Warsaw creates a good basis for switching to practical talks on troop and conventional arms cuts from the Atlantic to the Urals, and for further strengthening confidence and security in Europe.

Sufficiency of NATO, Pact Potentials Viewed

LD2608143388 Moscow TASS in English 1203 GMT 26 Aug 88

[Text] Moscow August 26 TASS—The military potentials of the Warsaw Treaty Organisation and the North Atlantic Alliance should not be threatening and causing concern for its security in a neighbour state (a coalition of states), but at the same time it must be sufficient to parry an aggression. This is the gist of the Soviet idea of reasonable sufficiency of armaments, which is commented on in today's issue of the trade union newspaper TRUD by Colonel Vladimir Alekseyev.

The author recalls that at the Berlin meeting of their Political Consultative Committee in May 1987 the Warsaw Treaty member countries declared that their military doctrine "proceeds from the need to maintain a balance at the lowest possible level, the expediency of a cut in the military potentials down to the limits of sufficiency necessary for defence."

The elimination of asymmetries on the basic components of the armed forces, types (systems) of weapons and military equipment is the first step on the way of progress towards a sensible sufficiency of the military potentials of the sides. To that end it is necessary to exchange official data on all the necessary characteristics of armaments. On the basis of an objective assessment of the joint military potentials of the sides, of finding out disbalances in all the types of weapons agreed methods can be elaborated to integrate into a single whole and consider all factors—political, economic, physical-geographical and military ones.

The next step aimed at lowering the level of confrontation should be cut in the forces and armaments. To that end it is necessary to lower the concentration of troops and armaments in the area of direct contact between the two alliances down to a minimum agreed level. The Warsaw-Treaty member countries propose that the armed forces be reduced on a mutual basis by 500 thousand men on each side. In perspective it is necessary to create zones free from nuclear and chemical weapons and a nuclear-free corridor along the line of contact between the troops of the Warsaw Treaty member countries and NATO up to 300 km wide.

The observer stresses that sensible sufficiency of the forces and arms necessarily presupposes the repudiation of the dangerous concept of deterrence, its replacement with the concept of international cooperation in the economic, political and humanitarian fields, mutual information on military activities.

Arms Forum Urges Reduced Offensive Potentials

PM1209072588 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 9 Sep 88 Second Edition p 3

[Lieutenant Colonel V. Markushin report: "Scientists' Meeting"]

[Text] To reduce the possibility of sudden offensive operations and thereby strengthen strategic stability in Europe—this is the idea of the Warsaw Pact states' 1986 Budapest appeal. Today this formula has become the subject of intensive debate among military specialists, scientists, and diplomats. This is also borne out by a recent international seminar in Moscow on questions of limiting armed forces and conventional arms and strengthening strategic stability in Europe. The seminar was organized at the initiative of the Soviet Committee for European Security and Cooperation and the Committee of Soviet Scientists in Defense of Peace and Against the Nuclear Threat. A press conference for Soviet and foreign journalists was held on its results.

What is the chief result of the scientists' forum? Its participants unanimously believe that, despite certain disagreements over details, agreement was reached on the most important thing; namely, on the approach to the problem of reducing armed forces and armaments and on the need to introduce the principles of nonaggressive defense into the practice of military building and the operational-tactical training of troops. Above all, the dangerous strike systems used on an operational level must be subject to reduction. At the same time, primarily defensive means would remain in the groupings' arsenal. The proposals by well-known West German politician A. von Buelow were interesting in this respect.

The structural changes in the makeup of the NATO and Warsaw Pact groupings and their restructuring in terms of their readiness to carry out exclusively defensive tasks are a very important aspect of the problem. The nature of the exercises and maneuvers being held is viewed in the same way. This was said, in particular, by A. Kokoshin, corresponding member of the USSR Academy of Sciences and deputy director of the Institute of the United States and Canada, in reply to a question from KRASNAYA ZVEZDA's correspondent. Other ideas whose implementation would undoubtedly help to strengthen peace in Europe were also discussed.

So, another very useful international meeting has been held. A specific contribution, albeit a small one, has been made to the development of the new political thinking. In conclusion, I would like to cite the words which Professor A. von Mueller, representing West German's Max Planck Society, said in a conversation with me: "The ideas relating to nonaggressive defense are innovative ideas. They strengthen mutual understanding

between scientists in the West and the East. It is very important that there be similar mutual understanding between the leaders of NATO and the Warsaw Pact, because, in the final analysis, it is they who are called upon to implement what comes out of debates among scientists and politicians."

Need To Convert Military Production Argued

PM0909124988 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian
8 Sep 88 Second Edition p 4

[Article by Academician B. Ponomarev: "The Way Out of the Impasse"]

[Text] All people of goodwill, particularly supporters of the antiwar and antinuclear movement, are noting with satisfaction the definite easing of international tension and the improvement of relations between many countries. The USSR-U.S. Treaty on the Elimination of Intermediate- and Shorter-Range Missiles signed by M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and U.S. President Reagan, played a decisive role in this process. For the first time since nuclear weapons have existed two classes of those weapons are going to be scrapped. It has already begun and is being verified. This also applies to a number of important antiwar processes. Many times the opponents of arms reduction have justified their rejection of reductions by saying that the other side cannot verify this process. However, life has shown that, given the will, the most reliable verification of both the manufacture of nuclear weapons and of their destruction is possible.

Active talks are under way in Geneva on the conclusion of an agreement on the 50-percent reduction of offensive, strategic nuclear weapons on which a top-level accord in principle has been reached between the USSR and the United States.

A bilateral agreement has been signed between Afghanistan and Pakistan under which the USSR's limited military contingent has begun to withdraw from Afghanistan, and Pakistan has assumed a commitment not to allow armed groups created for subversive activity in Afghanistan to remain on its territory. Unfortunately, the facts show that the Pakistani authorities are not observing the agreements, with the result that the civilian population of Afghanistan is suffering. It is particularly noteworthy that the Afghan settlement has been followed by a movement for a political settlement between Iraq and Iran and in Cambodia. It was important to show that a settlement could be achieved in one place, in Afghanistan. This was done at the Soviet Union's initiative, and other countries followed that lead.

In Vienna talks are being conducted on conventional arms reduction.

But alongside these arms reductions and the cessation of armed conflicts, which are so necessary to mankind, the arms race continues unabated in the NATO countries. Military appropriations for arms in the United States, for example, remain at the old level and amount to the colossal sum of $300 billion. Britain, France, and the FRG have made their "contribution" to the arms race. A surely unprecedented and paradoxical situation is emerging. The international situation is improving, some armaments are being reduced, but time and again the NATO countries' industry forges new weapons for the destruction of people. A clear contradiction is emerging between the improvement of the international atmosphere, the relaxation of tension, and the many statements on the desirability of peace and impermissibility of nuclear war, on the one hand, and the continuation of arms buildups on the other.

The question of the future and of how events will develop in the future is even more acute. The Soviet Union and the other Warsaw Pact countries have put forward a broad and inspiring arms reduction program.

The Soviet Union's consistent and open peace-loving policy finds sympathy and support among broad strata of the public, as is demonstrated by the press, public opinion polls, and speeches by prominent politicians and statesmen. In brief, everything indicates a new atmosphere and a growth of trust on the part of some countries toward others, especially the Soviet Union. And this categorically demands arms reduction, first and foremost in nuclear arms.

But it cannot be overlooked that many Western countries, primarily the United States, have gone a very long way in building up their military arsenals. A considerable proportion of industry, millions of people, and thousands of scientists are currently engaged in the arms manufacturing sphere. What will they do and where will they work if arms production is reduced? But there is an answer to this question. The military industry must be switched to a civilian track, to the manufacture of output for civilian purposes.

This is no easy process, of course. It poses many questions in the sphere of switching production to peaceful purposes, the technology of this production, the retraining of the work force, even the transfer of the work force from one enterprise to another, the supply of new raw materials, and much more. It is especially important to tackle the problem of switching military production to a civilian track in good time.

The scale of that production is now greater than ever before in peacetime. One often hears the opponents of arms reduction and the representatives of the military-industrial complex claiming that the reduction of military production will lead to increased unemployment and so on. But such reasoning does not stand up to criticism. Does that mean that the arms race must go on endlessly and infinitely? It is common knowledge that

enough nuclear weapons have been stockpiled already to destroy all of mankind many times over. Who needs more nuclear missiles, guns, and other weapons? After all, the relaxation of international tension, the Treaty on the Elimination of Intermediate- and Shorter-Range Missiles, and the other steps leading to arms reduction insistently demand that military production be switched to peaceful production. It is necessary to prepare for that right away. The active supporters of disarmament, including labor union organizations in the United States and the WFTU, have put forward proposals on this question and conducted research. But life and the working people's vital interests demand large-scale measures in the sphere of planning the conversion of industry. It must be said that experience of this kind exists. The transfer to peaceful production was achieved after World War II, when a vast proportion of industry in all the countries that had taken part in the war was geared to arms production.

There is another aspect to the study of the problem of transferring production to a peaceful track. When plans are developed in this area, they will give impetus to the cause of arms reduction by showing, first, the senselessness and unacceptability of colossal arms spending and second, the possibility of producing "butter instead of guns."

A highly characteristic position was taken by the Inga Thorsson commission in Sweden, which was set up to reduce armaments in accordance with a UN decision in 1982: "Irrespective of when global disarmament begins, it is important to begin planning the conversion of the defense industry right now. Experience of conversion shows that it usually takes considerable time to produce competitive output for the civilian market. Therefore, the diversification of production to reduce dependence on military contracts cannot wait until orders from the armed forces are about to dry up. This process must begin in good time...."

The alarm caused by the arms race has led to the creation in some Western countries of voluntary social organizations which conduct research in the sphere of the arms race and in contrast provide studies and proposals on reorienting military industry toward the production of civilian output. One of those organizations, the International Trade Union Committee for Peace and Disarmament (the Dublin committee), has published a brochure entitled "Working People and the Arms Race" which contains well-argued criticism of the arms buildup and speaks about possible measures to convert military sectors.

But that publication was a voice crying in the wilderness. Those forces that settle arms questions did not respond to it. But now, when important antiwar and antinuclear processes are taking place in the world, when the Soviet leadership's new thinking on the solution of the most important questions of war and peace is having a broad impact, and when a number of important antiwar agreements have been concluded, the problems of arms reduction and consequently of conversion are expected to attract the attention of all peace supporters and all people of goodwill striving to prevent a nuclear apocalypse. Their activeness and the solidarity of their actions can play a tremendous role in the defense of peace. And the problems of transferring military production to peaceful purposes occupy an important place among the measures designed to counter the arms race.

The elimination of intermediate- and shorter-range missiles has already begun in the Soviet Union, and a group of U.S. observers has had full opportunity to see that for themselves. According to existing figures, the implementation of the Soviet-U.S. agreement will save the USSR a total of about R300 million. Those resources, as USSR Foreign Minister E.A. Shevardnadze has stated, will be channeled into the social sphere. If those resources were used for housing construction, the present sum would be enough to build 30,000-40,000 apartments.

The missile building plants in Botkinsk, Petropavlovsk, and Volgograd are also being reorganized. The Botkinsk plant is launching the production of the very latest automatic metal-cutting machine tools and has plans to produce 400,000 "Feya" washing machines and 260,000 baby carriages. Similar work is going on at the other two enterprises. Despite that, there is no talk of reducing the work force, and all that may happen is that some will be retrained, at the state's expense.

That example is sufficiently convincing proof of the importance of arms reduction. The peoples will watch closely to see how this process is carried out in other countries.

Further on Nonaligned Movement Meeting

Wakil, Al-Masri Cited

LD1009180788 Moscow TASS in English 1735 GMT 10 Sep 88

[Text] Nicosia September 10 TASS—The Geneva accords on Afghanistan constitute a good basis for a final peaceful settlement of the situation in the country and around it, said 'Abdul Wakil, minister of foreign affairs of the Republic of Afghanistan.

Speaking at the current non-aligned foreign ministers' conference here, he emphasized that Afghanistan and the Soviet Union strictly abide by the Geneva accords and fulfil all their obligations in good faith.

At the same time, the Afghan foreign minister pointed out, interference in the internal affairs of non-aligned Afghanistan is not only continued but gains in scope, too. Four months after the signing of the Geneva accords, the undeclared war against the Republic is assuming a still more fierce character.

'Abdul Wakil accused Pakistan and the United States of violating the Geneva accords. The other side, he said, continues to arm extremist groups of the opposition. The agreement concerning the return of refugees is being ignored as well. Pakistan, for example, has violated the Geneva accords 431 times, 'Abdul Wakil emphasized.

Tahir al-Masri, Jordanian minister of foreign affairs, said in his speech at the conference about the need to convene as soon as possible an international Middle East peace conference with the participation of all the parties concerned, including the Palestine Liberation Organisation, as well as five permanent members of the United Nations Security Council. He stressed that such a forum under U.N. auspices would constitute an optimum way towards settling the Arab-Israeli conflict.

"The non-aligned foreign ministers' conference has shown that the non-aligned countries are extremely interested in the process of disarmament, in the strengthening of peace and international security, and in a political settlement of regional conflicts", Murad Ghaleb, acting president of the Afro-Asian Peoples Solidarity Organisation (AAPSO), has told a TASS corerspondent.

"Although the states which are members of the Non-Aligned Movement differ from one another in their political and social systems, they all believe that the questions of peace are inseparably connected with their economic and financial problems. Only peace and nuclear disarmament can give the developing countries a real hope to achieve economic and social justice".

Murad Ghaleb also pointed out that the current settlement of the Afghan question is a fine example of how, relying on the goodwill and desire of the parties concerned, one can secure a resolution of complex regional problems which affect first of all the interests of the peoples of the developing countries and pose a potential threat to universal peace.

Kulik Views Nonaligned Talks

LD1109193588 Moscow TASS in English 1529 GMT 11 Sep 88

[Text] Moscow September 11 TASS—TASS political observer Sergey Kulik writes:

A conference of foreign ministers of non-aligned countries that came to a close today in the Cyprus capital convincingly demonstrated that the present-day favourable developments in the international arena enable the Non-Aligned Movement to actively work for the preservation of peace, security, independence and justice. Non-aligned countries have done a great deal already for preparing and putting into effect the positive changes that determine the present-day political climate of the planet, specifically, the Soviet-American Treaty on the Elimination of Intermediate- and Shorter-Range Missiles, the Geneva accords on Afghanistan and steps taken towards the settlement of other regional conflicts. Suffice it to recall in this connection the world-famous Harare appeal and a joint declaration of non-aligned countries on disarmament adopted recently at the Havana conference.

At the Nicosia conference that developed the strategy and tactics of the movement for the coming years those peace-making activities of non-aligned were continued. Representatives of over 90 countries and national liberation movements taking part in the conference not only reiterated that the struggle for peace and peaceful coexistence continued to be the main objective of the movement, but also determined the degree of its responsibility for the future of humanity.

According to the program documents of the conference, this future is decided today not by the "strong" and the "great" of the present-day world, but by [word indistinct] the members of the world community. The French newspaper LE MONDE found it possible to write on the eve of the opening of the conference that the non-aligned countries were allegedly kept away from taking part in the solution of global problems and regional conflicts. Now, however, it would be better for LE MONDE to retract its words.

In conditions of a further consolidation of positions of the Non-Aligned Movement and its unity its acts more and more confidently as a major independent factor of world politics and turns into an active partner participating in the solution of problems facing humanity. The attempts to bring down international tension can prove to be futile if they are the monopoly of superpowers, out

of reach for all other members of the world community, the newspaper INDIAN EXPRESS wrote in connection with the Nicosia conference.

It is important that, in the opinion of the Non-Aligned Movement, it can participate in the creation of a just world only on an anti-imperialist basis. Commenting on practically all the topical problems of today, the Nicosia conference again showed that the course chosen by the non-aligned countries is different from the one followed by those forces in the West which intend to further decide the destinies of the third world from the position of neo-colonialism and neo-globalism, from the position of strength. The support for the struggle of Palestinians for their lawful national rights, the denunciation of apartheid in South Africa and the demand that independence should be immediately granted to Namibia, the encroachments on the sovereignty of Nicaragua should be stopped and that the Geneva accords on Afghanistan should be unconditionally observed—such is the stance of the Non-Aligned Movement with respect to the solution of the most serious conflicts.

On behalf of the countries where over half of the world population lives the conference reiterated again that political changes in international affairs called for the restructuring of economic relations. The imperative of our time is "Disarmament for Development".

Summing up the results of the Cyprus conference of foreign ministers of non-aligned countries, one could state that relying on their extensive experience in international affairs, acting in the spirit of unity and a profound sense of responsibility, participants in the Nicosia forum responded properly to the call of time and expressed in the resolutions of the conference their common will for peace and cooperation.

NATO Learning Strategic Lessons From Gulf War

PM0809130588 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 7 Sep 88 Second Edition p 3

[V. Pustov "Military-Political Commentary": "Looking for the Key"]

[Text] Two weeks have passed since the beginning of the Iran-Iraq talks in Geneva—not long enough yet to speak about their success or failure. Nevertheless, there is still no progress to be seen. The sides are still implacable in their position on the questions which should be discussed and resolved first of all. For example, should the forces be withdrawn first to the internationally recognized borders which existed before the conflict began in 1980 or should they begin by clearing the Shatt-al-Arab river so as to restore freedom of navigation there. Shrill mutual accusations of violations of the 20 August cease-fire are being made, although, in the words of a representative of the UN military observers group, there have been no serious violations of the agreement. Despite this the two sides have shown no desire to break off the dialogue.

At the same time as the difficult talks are continuing in Geneva, throughout the world people of goodwill are voicing the hope that they will end successfully. Officials in the United States are declaring their interest in the earliest peaceful settlement of the Iran-Iraq conflict, too. Recently, however, a new factor has emerged. U.S. and NATO military experts view the almost 8-year-old bloodshed from a clearly worrisome angle. Special significance is attached to analysis of the combat actions on the Iran-Iraq front, particularly in connection with the conclusion of the Soviet-U.S. treaty on Intermediate- and Shorter-Range Missiles, which, the West believes, will enhance the role of conventional armaments.

Here, according to THE NEW YORK TIMES, are just a few of the U.S. military experts' unanimous conclusions:

—The importance of cooperation in the use of artillery, motorized infantry, tank troops, and air forces both defensively and offensively, which is also borne out by the wars between Israel and the Arabs.

—From the strategic viewpoint, the Iran-Iraq war has demonstrated the importance of air supremacy and the effect of bombings and missile strikes on a country's will to wage a long war. "This," the newspaper notes, "is valuable information for those who advocate the strengthening of air power. Their views were discredited by the U.S. Air Force's unsuccessful actions over North Vietnam in the sixties."

—The significance of such factors as the morale of the warring countries' forces and population. When discussing in this context the "decline in Iran's fighting spirit," which initially was quite high, THE NEW YORK TIMES essentially recognizes the unseemly role, to put it mildly, of the U.S. naval forces concentrated in the Persian Gulf.

—Whereas the Spanish Civil War of 1936-1939 was, figuratively speaking, a testing ground for the new weapons and tactics which were later used in World War II, the Iran-Iraq conflict has seen the long-range, highly accurate combat facilities of certain industrially developed countries used against similar facilities of other countries. The use of chemical weapons, which has been corroborated by a UN investigation, could set a dangerous precedent for future wars in the "Third World."

Such reasoning clearly has the future in mind and envisages conflicts outside the so-called "Third World." "Western specialists," THE NEW YORK TIMES notes, "have studied the Arab-Israeli wars in their search for a key to quick victories on the battlefield in the event of war between NATO and the Warsaw Pact in Europe." The lessons now being learned from the Iran-Iraq war, the newspaper stresses, "clearly show that the key tactic in combating Soviet troops is the extensive use of antitank weapons and air strikes deep into the heart of their territory...."

Indeed, it is not the key to lasting peace and international stability that the transatlantic militarists are seeking.

U.S. Refusal To Pay UN Dues Criticized

PM0909150088 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 9 Sep 88 Morning Edition p 4

[B. Moskvichev article under the rubric "Apt Remarks": "The United States Refuses To Pay Contributions"]

[Text] "By the end of October we will be close to bankruptcy—since the host country (the United States) is holding back payments of $467.4 million, which it is obliged to pay. This cannot go on. Without this money the United Nations will be unable to exercise its new peacekeeping powers. It is simply impossible." Joseph Verner Reed, former U.S. ambassador, now a high-ranking staffer of the UN Secretariat.

The financial difficultes began after the U.S. Congress had taken a number of steps linking the payment of a part of the American contribution to structural changes in the United Nations itself.

The demands the United States is making on the United Nations amount to an attempt, as many observers note, to regain its former influence in the organization. Thus, in particular, by seeking a review of the procedure for approving the UN budget on the basis of a consensus, the Americans are trying to obtain what basically amounts to a veto on questions of expenditure. With a view to securing its arrogant demands the Reagan administration has brought the United Nations to the brink of financial bankruptcy.

In a period when signs of a global thaw are emerging more and more in the international situation, the U.S. position with regard to the United Nations and its specialized agencies causes concern even to the most loyal allies. C. Tickell, Britain's permanent representative, described the U.S. reluctance to make good its debt to the United Nations as absurd. The "Common Market" countries have appealed to the United States to pay its debts. But clearly something is not working in the complex system of American democracy.

The United States also acts from a position of strength with regard to a whole series of UN specialized agencies, whose work also does not suit the American Administration. As a result of the ostentatious U.S. withdrawal from UNESCO, its deficit is $14 million. UNIDO—the UN Industrial Development Organization in Vienna—is also in serious financial difficulties. Its budget is burdened with a $33 million deficit. UNIDO's "survival" will depend to a significant extent, according to its general director, on the behavior of the United States. Serious concern is prompted by the American Administration's decision to stop its contributions to the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO). Here the U.S. debt in payments is approaching $132 million. The World Health Organization (WHO), which failed to receive $47 million from the United States in 1986, is also under financial pressure.

The U.S. attempt to exert financial pressure on the United Nations to achieve its own political goals is causing serious concern to its leadership. In an interview for the French newspaper LE MONDE, J. Perez de Cuellar noted that he cannot accept R. Reagan's demands. "No one has the right," he stressed, "to say to someone to whom he owes $1,000: I will pay the debt, if you change the color of your house front or change the furniture."

The opening of the 43d UN General Assembly session, where it is already known that President R. Reagan is to speak, is approaching. It may be assumed that the U.S. President will talk about U.S. commitment to the ideals and principles of the United Nations. It would be nice to believe it, were it not for the debt of many billions that hangs over the United Nations and threatens to bankrupt it in its 44th year of existence.

Pugwash Representatives Received in Moscow

PM1209093188 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 9 Sep 88 Morning Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Visit to the USSR Foreign Ministry"]

[Text] Representatives of the Pugwash Conference—prominent scientists from a number of the world's countries—have visited the USSR Foreign Ministry where they were received by V.F. Petrovskiy, USSR deputy foreign minister. They handed over a declaration entitled "Ensuring Mankind's Survival" and a statement "Global Problems and Universal Security" which were passed by the Pugwash Conference held in Dagomys from 29 August to 3 September.

During the conversation V.F. Petrovskiy said that the contribution of the Pugwash movement to the establishment of new political thinking in international relations and the creation of an all-embracing system of international security, especially in the military-political and ecological spheres, was highly valued in the Soviet Union.

It was emphasized that a time of intellectual politics has come. Major scientists, political and public figures, representatives of international public organizations, and figures from the sphere of culture, literature, and art could significantly enrich the spiritual and ethical potential of present-day world politics. In this context the attention of those taking part in the conversation was drawn to the proposal contained in M.S. Gorbachev's article "Reality and the Guarantees of a Secure World" aimed at setting up a worldwide consultative council under the UN aegis to pool the world's intellectual elite.

The participants in the meeting noted that initiative on the part of scientists is particularly needed today. Scientists' knowledge and their profound, impartial analysis of the phenomena taking place in the present-day world must channel mankind's efforts into resolving the problems which are hampering its progress.

Weekly 'International Observers Roundtable'
LD1109200088 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1130 GMT 11 Sep 88

["International Observers Roundtable" program, presented by Boris Andrianov, All-Union Radio foreign political commentator, with Vadim Borisovich Kassis and Vladimir Ivanovich Fadeyev, not further identified]

[Text] [Andrianov] Hello, comrades. Today our roundtable subject will be the events in and around Afghanistan. This, I think, is still one of the main themes among the international problems in which Soviet people are interested. I assume there's no need to spend much time explaining why it is of such significance for our nation.

I can't help remembering the time when it was strictly forbidden to mention on radio or to report on television or in the press that Soviet soldiers were taking part in military operations in Afghanistan. You'd have thought our boys had been sent there merely in order to go out into the ricefields in their tanks and armored vehicles and help the Afghan farmers with the plowing. At the time of that ban, I was a lecturer of the Znaniye [Knowledge] Society and was giving talks in various cities of our country. What happened was that almost every audience asked me point-blank: Why the silence about the fact that our troops are carrying out military operations in Afghanistan, when already dozens of boys from our town have come back from there in lead coffins?

Of course it was absurd to maintain a propaganda silence when the people knew the tragic truth about the war in Afghanistan. It seems to me that this ought to be one more lesson that we can't afford to ignore, least of all in the present period of wide-ranging glasnost. That is why I am meeting at the roundtable today with my colleagues who have been to Afghanistan along with other Soviet journalists. One of my colleagues, Vadim Borisovich Kassis, was sent to that country in 1979, when our troops were going in. And my other colleague, sitting next to me, Vladimir Ivanovich Fadeyev, spent 4 years in charge of the Gosteleradio unit in Afghanistan and has been there several times since then, most recently 4 months ago. Now let me call on the first-named participant in today's discussion. Vadim Borisovich.

[Kassis] It was in the last days of 1979. The finishing touches were being put on the preparations for the New Year festivities, and the children were looking forward to the winter school holidays; but it fell to the lot of several Soviet journalists, of whom I was one, to fly out immediately to Afghanistan, where the limited contingent of Soviet troops was already being sent. I remember the airport near Moscow at night; the cold, starry sky and the heavy military transport aircraft. Traveling on the same plane with us was a group of surgeons, led by a major general. Involuntarily, an association arose in one's mind with combat operations during the Great Patriotic War: If medical personnel were being sent to a new sector, then bloody battles were expected there.

Our Ilyushin landed at Kabul Airport on a gray morning shortly before dawn. It was a long time since I'd seen at such close quarters armored troop-carriers and camouflaged military helicopters. There was every sign that this was a city under military control; yet at the same time, the atmosphere was one of unusual calm.

[Andrianov] Let us remind listeners at this point that the Soviet troops had come to Afghanistan not because they wanted to, but at the invitation of the Afghans themselves. You know, all those years, Western propaganda never ceased to reiterate that Afghanistan was occupied by Soviet troops.

[Fadeyev] Well, first of all let's be clear about what occupation is. As far as I know, occupation is the forcible conquest by armed units of one state of the territory of another state. That's the first stage, as it were. Then comes the overthrow of the legitimate government, and finally the imposition by the occupying forces of a new regime on the occupied territory. And then eventually, the complete enslavement and plundering of the local population. Is that really what has happened?

[Kassis] Well, if I may, I'll return to my personal observations from those far-off days. From the airport we were taken to the very center of Kabul. Our parked cars and buses were covered with snow. We made our way, with great difficulty, through the snowed-covered streets. But the ministries and departments, the shops and offices, were beginning their work day as usual. We were informed of this by our colleagues at the organ of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan, the newspaper HAQIQAT-E ENQELAB-E SAWR, where we spent most of the first hours of our stay in Afghanistan. It came as no surprise to us that some of the journalists were armed with submachine guns: We understood that the Afghans had risen in defense of their revolution. Against whom were they defending it? The explanation we received from our colleagues at the time, in answer to that question, was that the forces of external reaction and imperialism, through their placement, the enemies of the Afghan people, were trying to strangle the revolution—but once again their efforts had been in vain. We Afghans are grateful to our tried and tested friend and good neighbor, the Soviet Union, they told us. As in former times, it has responded to our call and come to our aid in the Afghan people's hour of need.

[Andrianov] I'll take the liberty of adding a word or two about the so-called occupation of Afghanistan. The Soviet soldiers overthrew no one. Not once did they interfere in the activities of the Afghan Government or

of the local organs of power. They observed, and continue to observe, all the accords. They are stationed exclusively in the areas assigned to them. The Soviet Army has not established any special regime on the territory of Afghanistan. From the very beginning of their presence on Afghan soil, the Soviet soldiers and officers have respected the sovereighty of the state, the country's laws, and the manners and customs of the ethnically-mixed population. Against this background, all the blather of Western propaganda about a supposed occupation looks totally absurd. But I'd like to hear from my colleagues a more detailed account of Afghanistan, because defining it as an ethnically-mixed state is insufficient for an understanding of the whole situation at the beginning and end of the eighties.

[Kassis] You've just mentioned the definition of Afghanistan as a state comprising many national groups, and said this is not enough to give us an insight into the whole situation at the beginning and end of the eighties. Well, the greater part of the population—and I want to remind listeners of this—is made up of the Pashtun tribes living—and this is also very important to bear in mind—along, or close to, the state frontier. There are about 8 million Pashtuns in Afghanistan and more than (?12) million in Pakistan. I stress that there are 8 million of them in Afghanistan—that's practically one-half of Afghanistan's present total population.

As we know, the zone of the Pashtun tribes was artificially divided between Afghanistan and India in 1893 under a plan devised by the British diplomat [Sir Mortimer] Durand. And it's always been a special characteristic of the Pashtun tribes that they've never been under the control of any of the royal governments. But at the same time it was natural that, in accordance with ancient custom, the khans and chieftains of the tribes should receive money from the royal governments for what one might call frontier duties. Of course they quarrelled and even fought among themselves over this money.

But the thing about this that's worth noticing is that every attempt to deprive the tribes of these privileges always led immediately to an outbreak of armed tribal uprisings. And that peculiarity of the tribes' relations with the central authorities, and the actual clashes among the tribes, were very subtly exploited in the policy of, among others, the British, who were anti-Soviet at that period. Well, and in our day the method has been taken over by Pakistan. Reports from Afghanistan say that very often recently the rebels have been joined in their armed struggle against the legitimate government by corps of youthful Pakistani volunteers—i.e. armed home guardsmen drawn from those same border tribes. Naturally, in the present case they're being paid to fight. One can't exclude the possibility that some of the tribes are taking part in the fighting under the influence of propaganda by religious figures who have an implacable attitude to people's power.

Here I've touched upon the importance of Islam, and its influence on tribal life. With its help, you can turn the Pashtuns and steer them in any direction you like; you can get them to do anything, even something unseemly. And this the new authorities decided to ignore in the first years of the revolution. Taraki ignored it; so did Amin; and so, at first, did Babrak Karmal. And the counterrevolution, in league with the West, managed to raise the Pashtuns not only in a holy war, jihad, in defense of Islam; not just the Pashtuns, by the way, but others, too, representatives of other national and ethnic groups inhabiting Afghanistan.

Today, when we say—and we have reason to say it—that the Islamic slogans have becomne obsolete in the ranks of the rebels, that the people have begun to understand who's who and so on, that the green banner of Islam is no longer attracting such a large number of adherents to go into battle beneath it against the government troops... [changes thought] But that's just it: This is, as they say, the talk of those who've already lost.

Neither we, when we went into Afghanistan, nor the new revolutionary regime took account of the fact that for the 60 tribes who were divided into 400 clans and sects dwelling on either side of the border, Islam and the Koran were the basis for the preservation of their traditional social fabric and their outlook on life. As it transpired—and we are now convinced of this—Islam was stronger, and most importantly, more understandable than many of the hazy revolutionary slogans of the time. And the attempts to squeeze Islam at the time provoked, I repeat, open armed resistance on the part of the people. And even now that the popular regime has succeeded in places in proving its respect for the laws of Islam and the Shari'ah, it is still far from easy to reap the benefits of this trust, for often the areas in which tribes cooperate with the popular regime are cruelly crushed by neighboring tribes that dwell nearby and are at war with the popular regime.

Here I would like to speak a bit about the difficulty of land reform. It [words indistinct] is known as land and water reform. The approach to the agrarian question in Afghanistan—and in terms of population employment, Afghanistan is 90 percent an agrarian country—was also extremely primitive. The regime handed out documents entitling the land to be used, but the peasants were unwilling to accept them. They were fearful, because the Koran forbids somebody else's property to be taken. The reports and accounts in the press and on radio and television at the time when I was working made these festivals of land distribution, and the whole progress of land and water reform appear very splendid.

But when you fly in an airplane or a helicopter and look down—and Vadim Borisovich is also well aware of this—expanses of mountains open up beneath you, and beyond each of them or between them there is another village. And I for one could not help wondering what century the people there were living in. It is well known

that there is no electricity there. Aside from a little path, there is no communication with the outside world. There are no doctors, and the best you can expect is the odd teacher or Mullah. And as I came to realize, the people in the villages had never heard of any revolution, and had no idea even what currency was in circulation at the time. But for some reason the new regime automatically included them in the category of people who had been drawn into the revolutionary process. And it should be said that at that time our press also made unfounded and exaggerated claims for the popular regime's successes. I believe it is for this reason that today we must explain many things to our readers, listeners, and viewers from scratch, so to speak.

The famous slogan "The People and The Party Are as One" was automatically transplanted from our life into Afghan life. I think many members of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan at that time naively supposed that all the revolutionary slogans were understandable to the people and that the victory of the revolution was imminent. Well, and there is another important point that I must speak about—something that, of course, brought chaos, disorder, and confusion to the ranks of the party. This is the cliquishness and clanishness that sometimes went as far as blood feuds. I have to mention this because I am absolutely convinced that there was much in the country, such as the fighting efficiency of the army and the people's militia, that depended on this petty bourgeois phenomenon that at the time plagued the party.

[Fadeyev] At that time, the start of the 1980's, the organization of the Afghan Army was far from perfect: meager rations, poor equipment, and the consequential laxness in discipline, which no army can do without. I will cite just one example: a sentry with a machinegun stands beside one of Kabul's facilities. Prayer time comes around. The sentry sets his gun to one side, kicks off his footwear, kneels down, and starts praying devoutly. You could go up, take the machine gun, and do with the military facility and the soldier himself whatever you please. This is an example from 1980. But now...

[Andrianov, interrupting] I believe that at that time we failed to notice and to understand other problems, too, which were lying in wait for the country at literally every step. To some extent the forces of foreign and internal reaction decided to play on this. The western press did not try to conceal that Afghanistan had a particularly important strategic significance for them. And the very idea of turning Afghanistan into a strategic military base—an outpost of imperialism targetted against the Soviet Union—gained fresh impetus after the United States lost its positions in Iran and decided to replace it with Afghanistan. For it was at precisely that time, if you recall, that all the fuss over the Afghan insurgents was started to conceal the intentions of foreign and internal reaction to put an end to the April revolution and the democratic system in that country. However, let us return to the state of affairs in the Afghan Army of today.

[Kassis] What can be said about the state of the Afghan Army today? I would like to share with you what are above all my own personal impressions. Incidentally, this matter is being linked above all with Afghanistan's future and with the withdrawal from there of our troops. I remember how, in a conversation with me back in May, during the operation being conducted along the Kabul-(Hayraton) highway, a regimental commander told me that in Afghanistan many of the officers started learning to fight too late. And only now has the implication of Comrade Gorbachev's statement hit them: They did not believe that the Soviets would leave and they would be left one-to-one, face-to-face with the enemy.

The belief that this step would not be taken engendered a certain psychological dependence in many, including rank and file soldiers. Nevertheless, I would like to say that the Afghan Army, people's militia units, and the State Security forces have, particularly over the past year, amassed perhaps as much combat experience as in the entire preceding period. As for being equipped with modern weapons, I do not think there can be any puzzled questions. We have supplied the Afghan Army with the most up-to-date technology. I have been in Afghan Air Force regiments and helicopter regiments. I have seen the Afghans fly and have flown with them. In the opinion of our experts their pilots are excellent and have splendid reactions such as only people who have grown up in the mountains possess. They have borrowed combat experience from our boys—fighter pilots and representatives of the other services. And so, something has been done—or rather, rectified—on issues of military organization. And, of course, one should take into account the traditions of our Army of which we are proud. To some extent they have, of course, been passed onto the Afghan soldiers. And so, although we are leaving Afghanistan, we are probably leaving much of our army spirit behind.

[Fadeyev] Regarding the Afghan Army today, I have a report from Kabul filed by a TASS correspondent, which says that units of the Afghan Army—and I stress, it is the Afghan Army—have, with the active support of the local population, carried out an operation to repulse an assault by antigovernment groups on the major district center of Nahr-e Saraj in Helmand Province. The mutineers tried to use heavy guns to break into this population center in order to rob the inhabitants. However, following a retaliatory strike by the Afghan troops, they were forced to retreat with the loss of more than 120 dead and as many wounded. I can add that guards subdivisions have been forced in the Afghan Army. The point is that naturally specially trained and high skilled soldiers are needed to defend the capital.

For the day and the hour is not far off when, in accordance with the Geneva accords, the Soviet troops will leave Afghanistan altogether. And the headquarters

of an Afghan Guards Unit has already been set up in the Bala Hesar fortress in Kabul, where one of our regiments was stationed until recently. The zone covered by the guards is fairly large: 11 districts of Kabul with the main administrative establishments and the presidential palace, and 6 suburban subdistricts. Artillery, tanks, and armored personnel carriers have been given to several thousand soldiers. Every soldier is ready to fight to his last breath for every square meter of the capital and for every house.

Who are these guards? What is their background, so to speak? The core of the guards is made up of party members. This is what one of them, for example, has said: We have admitted our political mistakes and our errors in the land reform and in the actions of the first and second stages of the revolution. We are prepared to answer for all of this. The party has lost 34,000 of its members at the front and in prison...

[Andrianov, interrupting] I think it would be worth saying a few words here about the goal of the policy of national reconciliation as the offspring of the new approach on the part of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan toward a settlement of the situation in the country and around it. The fundamental principle behind this policy is to peacefully resolve all the contradictions. Its strategic goal is an end to the fratricidal war. The practical embodiment of this policy resides in the thousands of national reconciliation commissions throughout the country. The only yardstick to measure the success of the work of such commissions is their ability to involve representatives of the opposing groupings in their work.

On the whole, the pluses of the national reconciliation policy are obvious. And this, gesnerally speaking, worries the leaders of the irreconcilable opposition. Gulbuddin Hikmatyar, for example, calls Kabul's policy a great deception, thereby adding to the chorus of the dushman [resistance] propaganda campaign against the indubitable achievements of this new policy. Hostile propaganda also asserts that the members of the government and parliament are, in the main, supporters of the People's Democratic Party, and that therefore no working coalition can exist.

[Fadeyev] Since we have touched upon the opposition, I would like to say a few words in this respect. Well, what should one say first and foremost about the opposition itself as a whole? That it has at its disposal a sizeable social and military base. It has at its disposal military aid from the United States, in the form of the latest weapons including "Stinger" missiles, recoilless weapons, and mortars. The United State's NATO allies are placing mines and long-range mortars at the opposition's disposal. This May, Kabul was shelled with mortars, missiles from mortars with a range of 20-30 km. And today there is already talk that the rebels are receiving a new batch of mortars with a range of 50 km. They are receiving Japanese communications equipment, firearms from China, and firearms other countries purchased (?by) Saudi Arabia.

At the bases in Pakistan, the rebels are being trained by Pakistani, Chinese, and other instructors and advisors of all ranks from the FRG, the United States, and Egypt. The refugee camps are the social base, so to speak, from which the counterrevolutionary detachments are reinforced. I have a telegram which ways that in just 2 days, 29 and 30 August, the "death convoys"—and this is precisely what the Afghans call the convoys that come from Pakistani territory—arrived in the Afghan provinces of Herat, Konarha, Nangarhar, and Badghis.

Large batches of rocket shells, U.S. "Stinger" antiaircraft missiles, and other weapons have been delivered to the rebels. The same report says that foreign advisors are taking part in military operations on the side of the anti-government forces. And the quarter from which they arrived has also been indicated.

And now a few words about the political hue of the opposition forces. It is extremely varied, ranging from ultraleftist to monarchic. It is precisely for this reason that they often squabble and come to blows. The largest and most stable union is the Islamic Alliance of the mujahidin of Afghanistan, which is comprised of seven counterrevolutionary organizations. At the moment we call them, as is customary in the press...

[Andrianov, interrupting] The Alliance of Seven...

[Fadeyev, interrupting] Yes, the Alliance of Seven. Their headquarters is in Peshawar. We are often asked about its numbers. How many do the antigovernment forces number, so to speak? But evaluations here vary. In one instance, the United States says 20,000, in another 65,000. Well, whatever the figure may be, they evidently base it on the quantity of weapons and the amount of money that they expend on equipping those detachments, which operate under the control of the Pakistani Intelligence Directorate.

Well, beside this there are in Afghanistan—and we have to mention that today—a very large counterrevolutionary force under the leadership of so-called field commanders. These are the grouping of Ahmad Shah Mas'ud in Panjsher, Esma'il Khan in Herat, and (Sayyed Jaglam) in Ghazni. They do not support, to be more exact, they do not always support the slogans of the Peshawar Seven, and lately serious differences have been observed among them with regard to strategy and operational tactics.

[Kassis] Well, you have given a fairly precise definition of the characteristics of the Afghan opposition forces, and you have shown the so-called irreconcilables. They are precisely the ones who are persisting in their reluctance to acknowledge the results of the Geneva process and are refusing to cease military activity. But there is

absolutely nothing new about their bellicose statements, you see. If they confirm anything at all, then it is simply the fact that those who come out with those statements are devoid of a sense of responsibility for their homeland and for their people.

[Fadeyev] I believe that the following completely understandable questions are on many people's lips. How can one picture, if only in general outlines, the near future of Afghanistan after the complete departure of Soviet troops?

[Andrianov] It is hardly likely that any sensible people who are familiar with the sitaution in that country will dare to make a justified forecast on this count. In the quest for an answer to such a question, however, one must take into account certain factors which have no small influence on the development of events in Afghanistan. With the withdrawal of Soviet troops, the irreconcilable extremist groupings in the opposition camp have lost their main trump card. It consisted of attempts to justify counterrevolutionary activity by appealing to notorious jihad, that is, the holy war against the infidel. This is a very relevant circumstance in the conditions in Afghanistan where the presence of a foreign military has been a sensitive issue at all times. One must recognize that it is a sensitive issue for the psychology of the ordinary Afghan.

One cannot fail to take into account either, the obvious fact that, in spite of all their attempts, the leaders of the Peshawar Seven have not managed to keep their promise to take possession of a number of important provinces. They were not permitted to do this by the Afghan Armed Forces that we have already mentioned. There are grounds for thinking that certain sections of Afghan society are gradually beginning to perceive the irreconcilables as conductors of a Pakistani policy of expansion in Afghanistan. This can, incidently, be partly explained by the fairly acute quarrel between the individual armed formations of the opposition, which is naturally having an effect on the lessening of its influence.

To all appearances, the irreconcilables are attempting to compensate for this weakening of their positions by stepping up their barbaric methods of terror. But these methods that the civilian population feels the brunt of in conditions when the policy of national reconciliation continues to be in effect in the country are only capable of convincing the Afghans to an even greater extent that this policy corresponds to the vital interests of all sections of Afghan society and points the way to the solution of the main problems in the country. This path is naturally a complicated one, but it corresponds to the behest of our time.

On that note we conclude today's roundtable meeting. All those taking part thank you for your attention, respected comrades, listeners. Good bye. All the very best to you.

United States & Canada

Shevardnadze, Shultz To Meet 22-23 Sep

LD1009141088 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1400 GMT 10 Sep 88

[Text] First a report about a forthcoming meeting. As mutually agreed, Comrade Shevardnadze, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR foreign minister, will meet with U.S. Secretary of State Shultz on 22 and 23 September in Washington.

Gorbachev, Reagan Awarded Peace Prize

LD1009083788 Moscow TASS in English 0802 GMT 10 Sep 88

[Text] San Francisco September 10 TASS—Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and U.S. President Ronald Reagan have been officially announced the 1988 winners of the Beyond War Organisation prize.

This international prize is awarded annually to political leaders, public figures and countries for making the most important contribution to strengthening peace and averting the war threat.

This year's prize was conferred on the Soviet and American leaders for changing the relations between the United States and the Soviet Union and switching them from genuine hostility to the area of cautious cooperation.

They lowered the threat of world annihilation and raised the hope that the military threat to the world could be removed, Richard Rathbun, president of the Beyond War Organisation, emphasized in an official statement. He said the two world leaders had played a decisive role in this process, having expressed the aspirations of the people of the world for a peaceful future.

Ruth Hodos, a spokeswoman for the Beyond War Organisation, said that the current year was passing under the sign of historic events in Soviet-American relations, the implementation of the INF Treaty signed during the Washington summit in December last year above all. The treaty marked the first practical step towards nuclear disarmament.

According to Ruth Hodos, the Moscow meeting between Soviet and American leaders also made a valuable contribution to promoting trust and mutual understanding between the two countries and brought about the general improvement in the international political climate.

This year's prize was awarded to Mikhail Gorbachev and President Ronald Reagan to pay a tribute to their efforts in this direction, which should be continued for the sake of disarmament, world peace and security.

The official presentation ceremony is scheduled for November 19 this year.

The Beyond War Organisation united people of various occupations—representatives of scientific and academic circles, politicians, businessmen, as well as broad public taking an active part in the peace campaign.

The organisation has branches in 40 out of the 50 American states, as well as some other countries.

The previous winners of the Beyond War Organisation prize were the Contadora Group countries and the movement International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War.

Ryzhkov, Hammer Discuss Trade Links

LD0909194788 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 10 Sep 88 Second Edition p 4

[Text] The chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, Nikolay Ryzhkov, received in the Kremlin today the chairman of the board of the Occidental Petroleum Coorporation, Armand Hammer, who has arrived in Moscow to hold negotiations with Soviet organizations concerning a number of industrial projects.

The course of drafting the agreements on cooperation and setting up joint ventures in the petroleum, chemical, light, and food industries was discussed. Special attention was paid to the broadening of production in the Soviet Union of various materials used for the manufacture of consumer goods, as well as products of the food and medical industries.

Armand Hammer spoke about the work of specialists of the Occidental Petroleum Coorporation on technical, organizational, and financial matters connected with the plan of setting up petrochemical complexes on the basis of hydrocarbon raw materialc of western Siberia and with the creation of some other enterprises.

During the exchange of opinions on the state of commercial and economic relations between the USSR and the United States, Nikolay Ryzhkov noted that the Soviet-American summits, which opened the opportunity for radical improvement of mutual relations, as well as restructuring and continued economic reform in the USSR, create a favourable atmosphere for the development of economic ties between the USSR and Western countries, including the United States. Conditions have ripened for qualitatively new business relations, but their development is still hampered by the lack of the most-favored-nation treatment and various kinds of administrative restrictions.

Both sides expressed the hope that further contacts between the USSR and the United States, as well as concrete measures for the implementation of the arrangements reached will make it possible to remove the existing obstacles on the road of broad development of equal and mutually advantageous Soviet-American cooperation.

Taking part in the conversation were V.K. Gusev, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers; Yu.A. Bespalov, USSR minister of the chemical industry; and V.L. Malkevich, chairman of the Presidium of the USSR Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

Pentagon News Conference on East Asia Viewed

PM0909122588 Moscow SELSKAYA ZHIZN in Russian 9 Sep 88 p 3

[Vladimir Lapin "Commentator's Column": "Distorting Mirror of Neoglobalism"]

[Text] A routine news conference was held in the Pentagon recently. The information given by K. Jackson, U.S. deputy assistant secretary of defense, who is responsible in the Pentagon for the formation of policy in East Asia, was unsensational. It was interesting only in that it provides a kind of practical illustration of the foreign policy doctrines that the Republican Party is relying on during the election campaign.

Their thrust was clearly formulated by President Reagan, who is now seeking to credit his administration with achieving the important advances that have taken place in the international arena, again emphasizing strength. A "bright future" awaits the world if Americans continue their policy of "peace from a position of strength," he proclaimed in one of his traditional radio broadcasts recently.

Moreover, echoing his President, the high-ranking Pentagon official illuminated the prospects that await Asia and the Far East in particular in following the U.S. Defense Department's good example. The continuation of the U.S. bases in the Philippines, come what may, not the slightest thought of withdrawing the troops and arms from South Korea, the continuation of military links with Taiwan, which have given rise to objections from the PRC, and the further forcing of the "tremendous success" already achieved in the field of military relations with Japan— and all this in view of "possible outside aggression." The only thing which is not specified is its source.

But on familiarizing oneself with the foreign policy section of the Republican Party's election platform, one can sense the Republicans' alarm at the fact that the Asia-Pacific region has become "an arena for the Soviet Union's increasing activity." Some people obviously do not like the improvement of the USSR's relations with a number of states in the region, our new trade and economic contracts, or the popularity of the USSR's peace-loving initiatives in the Asian countries. To judge by K. Jackson's news conference, one might think that the Pentagon has not even heard of the constructive proposals for changing the region into a zone of good-neighborliness and cooperation put forward by M.S. Gorbachev in Vladivostok slightly over 2 years ago.

Alas, neither the doctrine of "peace from a position of strength" nor its development by the Pentagon are distinguished by their novelty. The spirit of neoglobalism continues to hover in the Washington corridors of power, distorting the real picture of the world.

Senate Votes for Sanctions Against Iraq

LD1009152688 Moscow TASS in English 1433 GMT 10 Sep 88

[Text] Washington September 10 TASS—On Friday the U.S. Senate voted for economic sanctions against Iraq which is accused by the United States of using chemical weapons against Kurdish insurgents in the country's northern areas. Voting on this bill was railroaded in an unusually short period of time: 18 hours after it had been introduced for consideration at the upper chamber of the U.S. Congress. An "exception" from the usual rules of procedure was even made for this purpose. A similar bill is already introduced in the House of Representatives.

Measures approved by legislators, which Claiborne Pell, chairman of the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations, described as the stiffest, which had been debated by the U.S. Congress in many years, provide for ending American credits to Iraq, stricter control over exports to that country and imposing a ban on import of Iraqi oil.

Despite repeated requests by journalists at a regular briefing for the press on Friday, Charles Redman, U.S. State Department spokesman, refused to discuss what evidence the United States had in confirmation of these accusations.

Baghdad September 10 TASS—Latif Nusayyif Jasim, minister of culture and information, described as totally groundless Washington's accusations of Iraq of using chemical weapons in the country's north.

He pointed out in a statement transmitted by the INA news agency that those who spread such concoctions, sought to play a "Kurdish card" so as to reach their own ends, turning the region into a source of tension. However, Iraq can protect its independence, noted the minister.

U.S. Mideast Initiative Criticized

TA0809213588 Moscow Radio Peace and Progress in Hebrew 1630 GMT 8 Sep 88

[Commentary by political commentator (Vyacheslav Katanidze)—first two paragraphs are studio introduction]

[Text] President Reagan has invited Shim'on Peres and his Egyptian counterpart 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid to come to Washington at the end of the month and conduct negotiations under U.S sponsorship about a settlement of the conflict in the Middle East. This invitation apparently took the political echelon in Israel by surprise, not just because of its timing, which falls in the midst of the

election campaigns in Israel and the United States, but also because in their meeting in Washington, the sides are scheduled to discuss the Shultz plan, perhaps with certain cosmetic changes.

Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir did not like this very much. Right-wing spokesmen even went so far as to say that President Reagan was outrightly interfering in Israel's domestic affairs and had thrown a bombshell into the midst of the Israeli election campaign. Some even accused the White House of expressing unilateral support for Peres' position in his struggle against Shamir's stance. In contrast, Washington argues that there is no question here of interference in Israel's affairs and that the administration only wants to promote the peace process. Political commentator (Vyacheslav Katanidze) is at the microphone:

[(Katanidze) in Russian fading into Hebrew translation] Some people in Israel claim that the administration has chosen odd timing for raising its proposal. What this means is that at a time when election campaigns are still going on, the U.S. position, as it were, gives an edge to one bloc over the other in Israel. Indeed, there is something to this argument, although this does not apply to the U.S. Administration's attutude toward the Alignment and the Likud, but first and foremost to the attitude of these two blocs toward Secretary Shultz' plan. Considering that the Likud firmly objects to it while the Alignment supports it, Shim'on Peres would seem to have scored a few points at the expense of his chief rival, Yitzhaq Shamir.

That, however, is not the main point. If we were to examine the main point, it would immediately emerge that the timing chosen by the administration is not that odd at all. The call from Washington was made as soon as people, both in Israel and all over the world, finally reached the conclusion that the intifadah [uprising] and King Husayn's decision has created a new reality in the occupied territories.

As early as the end of August, the press in North America, Europe, and Israel began filling up with dozens of articles whose content is significantly new. All of them state that the time has come to solve the Middle East conflict through a joint effort, while taking the Palestinian factor and the PLO's role into account. Secretary Shultz' plan is forgotten and apparently buried for good.

At precisely this point, however, came another U.S. stratagem in the Middle East. Although the foreign ministers of Israel and Egypt were invited, there is also a message to the Palestinians: The administration undertakes, as it were, to play a more active role in all that is happening in the region and will try to promote the peace process until its last day in office. If the next administration is Republican, this activity will continue in the future also.

Incidentally, there is also an effect on the election campaign in the United States itself. The Republicans are trying to gain the favor of American Jews who support the Alignment, who have been quite disappointed by Washington's policy over the last few years. If the effect on the political establishment in the United States could still be held in doubt, however, the effect on developments in the Middle East could be enormous: enormous and destructive—because at present, at a time of introspection and when public opinion leans toward a comprehensive and just solution in the Middle East, the new U.S. initiative could divert attention from the main issue and take the nations of the Middle East back to the Camp David era. By paying lip service to liberals in the Israeli establishment, the administration is once again trying to persuade the Israeli public that the key to a solution in the Middle East lies on the U.S. President's desk.

It should be pointed out that to date, exclusive reliance on the strategic big brother has only brought about wars. If this reliance appears again by any other name, the peace process in the Middle East might get buried for a long time. Is it worth it to miss an opportunity for real peace just to satisfy the wishes of a handful of U.S. politicians? Is it worth it to the nations that are weary of shedding blood and tears?

Soviet-U.S. Television Series Begins

LD1109211388 Moscow TASS in English 1511 GMT 11 Sep 88

[Text] Moscow September 11 TASS—The makers of the 12-part Soviet-American video movie under the general title "Homeland" set themselves the task to break loose outdated stereotypes born in the cold war period and to destroy an obtrusive "enemy image". It was conceived by the central studio of documentary films in Moscow and the U.S. company Broadcast Video Communications. The first two parts—the Armenian SSR and Washington State—will be premiered simultaneously on Soviet and American television today.

Valentin Nikonov, operator of the film from the Soviet side (director Aleksandr Andreyev takes part in the Washington premiere), told TASS that the authors of the series shunned the traditions of an utterly political film and focussed their attention on ordinary people who are engaged in day-to-day concerns rather than solving problems of world importance.

"In Armenia our international film crew showed interest, specifically, in a sportsman, a clergyman, a middle-level party functionary, an elderly woman who lived in Yerevan for all of her life, and in Washington State—a teacher, a fisherman, a farmer, a rank-and-file millionaire—a military pilot in the past. We called on them at home, talked about all kinds of things, showed interest in their day-to-day life, views of life as all this is of interest to the television audience of both countries, who generally have a poor idea of each other".

"And, certainly, it transpired during unconstrained talks that both countries' mass media 'tried' to build up a distorted image of an ordinary Soviet man or an ordinary American. Whenever we have been and whoever we talked with, the idea was voiced about the need to foster friendship and cooperation between our powers."

"One would like to believe that our series, whose filming, as we hope, will soon be continued, will serve to promote trust and mutual understanding between our peoples. For it will be seen by millions of television viewers on both sides of the ocean", Nikonov said.

U.S. Botanists Participate in Joint Expedition

LD1109201988 Moscow TASS in English 1948 GMT 11 Sep 88

[Text] Ulan Ude September 11 TASS—TASS correspondent Andrey Sotnikov reports:

A group of American enviromentalists have spent two days on the eastern shore of Lake Baykal. Its participants shared with Soviet scientists their unusual trophies—rare plants from the Siberian taiga which will now be included in the herbaria of the botanical garden of Rancho Santana in California, Fairbanks University of Alaska and the Central Siberian Botanical garden of Novosibirsk, western Siberia. The first joint expedition along the shores of the Siberian lake permitted to study in detail the unique flora of a new Baykal national park which boasts many plants growing only in that area.

The work of Soviet and American botanists carried out in accordance with an intergovernmental agreement on enviromental protection permitted to establish ties between the botanical gardens of Laymorth, California, and Novosibirsk.

Before coming to the Baykal region American scientists were given an opportunity to travel on foot by the taiga in the Magadan and Khabarovsk regions. Soviet botanists also organized several expeditions for studying rare and relict plants of the Western Hemisphere.

China

New Conditions Set for Settlement on Ties

LD1109105088 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0730 GMT 11 Sep 88

[Text] AFP reports from The Hague that the PRC evidently intends to raise new preliminary conditions within the framework of the general settlement of Soviet-PRC relations. The PRC deputy foreign minister announced this in The Hague during a conversation with a representative of the Netherlands.

This new condition essentially represents a demand which boils down to the USSR refusing to use facilities at the Vietnamese base of Cam Ranh Bay as a supply and refueling point for its naval ships. I will remind you that the previous PRC demand came down to the withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan, of the Vietnamese Army from Cambodia, and, unilaterally, the withdrawal of Soviet formations for a considerable distance from the Soviet-PRC frontier.

Technical Aid for PRC Power Plant Construction

OW0909140588 Moscow International Service in Mandarin 0100 GMT 8 Sep 88

[Text] In accordance with a contract signed on 7 September in Beijing, the Soviet Union will provide technical aid for the construction of a 600-megawatt thermal power plant in Nanjing City, Jiangsu Province. The technical aid will include the design and supply of two complete sets of generator units and the dispatch of experts to the plant. The first generator unit at the Nanjing Thermal Power Plant is scheduled to become operational by the end of 1990.

According to the terms of the contract, the Chinese side will use its shipyards to repair Soviet ships and will supply the Soviet Union with civilian goods as compensation for the technical aid.

Plant Design Complete

OW1109133888 Moscow International Service in Mandarin 1400 GMT 6 Sep 88

[Text] Experts from the No 6 (?Machinery) Plant of (Harkov) City in the Ukraine have completed the designing of a 320,000-kilowatt steam turbine to be manufactured for the Nanjing Thermal Power Plant in China. The Soviet experts have taken into consideration as much as possible the desire of Chinese electric power workers. This new power generating unit is more dependable and more advanced than similar units manufactured before. The Soviet plant will start manufacturing the main engine for China next year, and the steam turbine will be manufactured in 1990.

Wuhan Friendship Delegation Visits Moscow

OW1109090788 Moscow International Service in Mandarin 1400 GMT 2 Sep 88

[Text] A delegation from the Hubei branch of the Chinese People's Association for Friendship With Foreign Countries arrived in Moscow on 1 September. The delegation is headed by (Shen Xiang), vice president of the China-USSR Friendship Association under the Hubei branch of the Chinese People's Association for Friendship With Foreign Countries. The delegation is visiting the Soviet Union in accordance with a plan for cooperation between the friendship organizations of the two countries. The members of the delegation will be the guests of the Ukrainian and other branches of the Soviet-Chinese society. They will go to visit Kiev on 3 September.

Before their departure for Kiev, the Chinese guests had a warm and friendly meeting in Moscow on 2 September with members of the Central Board of the Soviet-Chinese Friendship Society. Here is a report on the meeting:

(Stelareva), deputy chairman of the central board of the Soviet-Chinese Friendship Society, extended her warm welcome to the Chinese guests. She expressed her satisfaction over the expanded friendly relations between the two countries in all fields.

(Stelareva) said: We are very happy to meet our Chinese guests from Wuhan City of Hubei Province. We know and like the city very much. Wuhan and Kiev, the capital of the Ukrainian SSR of the Soviet Union, have become fraternal cities. Many Soviet experts who took part in the construction of industrial and mining enterprises and the Changjiang Bridge in Wuhan once had their destiny linked to the city. We are very glad that a new bridge of friendship is being built between us.

In conclusion, (Stelareva) asserted: We are very happy to meet you.

(Shen Xiang), head of the Hubei delegation, then spoke:

[Begin (Shen Xiang) recording] I would like to thank Deputy Chairman Comrade (Stelareva) for her friendly speech. We are very happy that so many of our friends are gathering here in a meeting. Since our arrival in the Soviet Union, we have been accorded a warm and friendly reception by the USSR Union of Societies for Friendship and Cultural Relations With Foreign Countries and its Ukrainian branch. They have made us feel at home. During our visit to your country, particularly the Ukrainian SSR, we will strive to make contributions to the friendship between the people of Hubei Province and Wuhan City and the people of the Ukrainian SSR and Kiev City. Our visit here is short, but our friendship is a lasting one. We hope that Comrade (Stelareva) and other comrades of the USSR Union of Societies for Friendship and Cultural Relations With Foreign Countries can come to visit Hubei Province when they have the chance to visit China. [end recording]

Condolence Message Marks PRC Flood Deaths

LD0909171088 Moscow TASS in English 0858 GMT 9 Sep 88

[Text] Moscow September 9 TASS—The USSR Council of Ministers has sent a telegram to Li Peng, premier of the State Council of the People's Republic of China, expressing heartfelt sympathy in connection with a strong flood in some parts of China that involved the loss of life. The telegram expressed condolences to the families of the dead.

PRC Paper on Aftermath of CPSU Conference

LD0909204088 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1100 GMT 9 Sep 88

[Text] The organ of the Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party, the newspaper RENMIN RIBAO, has published an article entitled "After the 19th Party Conference of the CPSU." "Two months have already passed," says the article in particular, "since the holding of the party conference. In this short period the Soviet Union has carried out a huge amount of work on a nationwide scale to realize the spirit of the confernce. In this domain certain progress has been made, but also certain problems have been encountered. The conference made it clear that the key link in achieving the full effect of restructuring is a multilateral reform of the political structure. Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev considers," the newspaper writes, "that if he does not bring about the reform of the political system, the whole restructuring process will be in vain. For the last 2 months discussion about restructuring questions has been continuing within the party. Various points of view are being expressed, for example, about the question of the market economy and others. In the words of Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev, that very tense time has arrived, when only the realization of the political course laid down at the party conference can ensure the irreversibility of restructuring," RENMIN RIBAO writes.

Article Comments on U.S. Arms Supply to Taiwan

OW1209050088 Moscow International Service in Mandarin 1400 GMT 3 Sep 88

[Station observer Alekseyev article: "Why Does the United States Want Taiwan?"]

[Text] The United States intends to maintain military contacts with Taiwan in the future. This was announced by Jackson, deputy assistant secretary of defense of the United States, at a press conference held by the Pentagon. Jackson stressed: We are committed to providing defensive weapons to Taiwan, and we are very serious about this.

Station observer Alekseyev writes: As a matter of fact, the assistant U.S. defense secretary did not say anything new. The repeated remarks by these officials show that it is a long-term policy of the United States to provide arms to Taiwan. Under these circumstances, is there anything noteworthy in Jackson's remarks?

First, military aid to Taiwan serves as a component part of the U.S. overall strategy in the Asia-Pacific region. U.S. arms supply to Taiwan has been linked to the stationing of U.S. troops in South Korea and the Philippines. A very important factor in the U.S. strategy for the Far East is the expansion of U.S.-Japanese military cooperation. It is well-known to all that this has aroused deep concern among Japan's neighboring countries.

What role does Taiwan play in the U.S. strategy for the Far East? Former U.S. Defense Secretary Weinberger has expressed his view on this matter. At a press conference, he stressed that Washington considers Taiwan one of the forward positions for safeguarding U.S. interests in the Far East. The statement by the deputy assistant defense secretary of the United States reminds us that since Weinberger left office, the U.S. strategic thinking has not undergone remarkable changes. From here, we can say that Washington still plans to keep Taiwan's political status quo.

Taiwan has been without U.S. military bases for a long time. However, in the 1950's, the Pentagon set up powerful military installations there, including airfields, underground fuel and munitions warehouses, port facilities, communications lines, and so on. All these facilities are being renovated with financial assistance from Washington. According to Hong Kong's FAR EASTERN ECONOMIC REVIEW, it actually does not cost much for U.S. air and naval forces in the Far East to be stationed in Taiwan.

The Pentagon might be interested in this matter because the prospects for the United States to preserve its military bases in the Philippines are very dim.

Northeast Asia

Further on Chebrikov Visit to Pyongyang

8 Sep Tour, Kim Il-song Speech

PM1209073388 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 9 Sep 88 Second Edition p 5

[TASS reports under the general heading "Ceremonial Session"]

[Text] Pyongyang, 8 Sep—The Soviet party and government delegation headed by V.M. Chebrikov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the USSR KGB, which is taking part in the ceremonies to mark the 40th anniversary of the DPRK's formation, today continued seeing the sights of Pyongyang.

The guests visited an exhibition in the capital depicting the achievements of the republic's national economy, and visited the construction of a new 150,000-seater stadium. It is being built on the eve of the 13th World Festival of Youth and Students, which will be held in Pyongyang next year. V.M. Chebrikov made a high assessment of the builders' work and wished them further successes.

The Soviet delegation took part in a ceremonial session devoted to the 40th anniversary of the DPRK's formation and attended a festive concert organized by the republic's best creative forces.

Pyongyang, 8 Sep—A ceremonial session devoted to the 40th anniversary of the DPRK's formation was held here today.

More than 300 delegations from 120 countries—including the Soviet party and government delegation headed by V.M. Chebrikov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the USSR KGB—were in the auditorium.

Kim Il-song, general secretary of the WPK [Workers Party of Korea] Central Committee and DPRK president, who spoke at the session, summed up the results of socialist building in the republic over the last four decades, and talked about tasks for the future. The DPRK, he noted in particular, is a great gain of the Korean revolution achieved over many years of a hard independence struggle.

Talking about the tasks facing the country at the present-day stage, the DPRK leader pointed to the need to modernize the national economy and resolve the questions of providing the population with food and housing. By the end of the Third 7-Year Plan (1987-1993) it is planned to considerably increase production of the most important types of output and bring about a qualitative leap forward in improving the people's living standards.

Eradicating the threat of war and easing tension on the Korean Peninsula, the speaker said, are the most important and urgent issues and a necessary condition for peacefully uniting the motherland. The Korean people advocate the conclusion of a peace treaty between the DPRK and the United States, the adoption of a North-South nonaggression declaration, the withdrawal of U.S. troops and their nuclear weapons from South Korea, and the significant phased reduction of armed forces in both parts of the country. The United States should respond to the proposal to hold DPRK-U.S. talks on the basis of a sincere intention to resolve the Korean issue.

Concerning the problem of dialogue between northern and southern Korea, Kim Il-song advocated the active development of contacts and talks between the sides with the participation not only of leaders but of all political parties, social organizations, and various sections of the population. These talks should discuss and resolve, above all, issues such as the adoption by North and South of a nonaggression declaration and the formation of a confederative government for the United States while retaining the present two systems in North and South.

The DPRK Government will continue to steadily pursue a foreign policy based on the principles of independence, peace, and friendship, and will always support and aid the peoples of various countries in their struggle against imperialism, colonialism, and racism and for the achievement of national freedom and independence. The DPRK supports the socialist countries' constructive

initiatives and peace-loving efforts aimed at easing international tension, ending the arms race, and reducing nuclear weapons. It actively supports the governments and peoples of different countries in their struggle to create nuclear-free zones and zones of peace in different parts of the world.

The DPRK, Kim Il-song said in conclusion, advocates the strengthening of relations of friendship and cooperation with the socialist countries and the nonaligned movement and the development of good-neighborly and friendly relations and economic and cultural cooperation with capitalist countries which respect the republic's sovereignty.

Attends 9 Sep Fete

LD0909142188 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0830 GMT 9 Sep 88

[Text] Pyongyang, 9 Sep (TASS)—Today, on the 40th anniversary of the formation of the Democratic People's Repubilc of Korea, a Soviet party and government delegation headed by V.M. Chebrikov, member of the Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Committee for State Security, was present at the mass demonstrations of working people of Pyongyang, which took place at the city's central square. More than a million residents of the capital and its suburbs took part in the festive procession. DPRK President Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Workers Party of Korea Central Committee, was present at the central stand.

10 Sep 'Mass Meeting'

LD1109005088 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1744 GMT 10 Sep 88

[Text] Pyongyang, 10 Sep (TASS)—A mass meeting was held here today in honor of a Soviet party and government delegation led by V M Chebrikov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the USSR State Security Committee, which is in the DPRK to take part in the celebrations marking the 40 anniversary of the formation of the Republic. [Pyongyang KCNA in English at 1511 GMT on 10 September in a similar report adds: "Present on the occasion were Comrade Kim Chong-il, member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau and secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, Kye Ung-tae, member of the Political Bureau and Secretary of the WPK Central Committee, Kwon Min-chun, vice-director of a department of the WPK Central Committee, and Gennadi G. Bartoshevich, Soviet Ambassador e.p. to Korea."]

On behalf of the working people of the capital of the DPRK the guests were warmly greeted by Kang Hui-won, candidate member of the Politburo of the Workers Party of Korea [WPK] Central Committee, responsible secretary of the WPK Committee, and chairman of the Pyongyang Administrative and Economic Guidance Committee. He stressed that the friendship and cohesion of the Soviet and Korean peoples are an inalienable part of the 40-year history of the DPRK. The USSR is a reliable comrade-in-arms, who was the first to recognize People's Korea and to provide it with aid on the basis of stable interstate and allied relations.

The working people of the DPRK express gratitude to the fraternal Soviet people for material and moral support in repelling the aggression of U.S. imperialism in 1950-53 and in the period of restoring the national economy and of sweeping socialist construction. Now, too, the friendship of the peoples of the DPRK and the USSR is developing fruitfully in the political, economic, and cultural spheres on the basis of accords reached in the course of meetings between the leaders of the two countries.

The CPSU and the Soviet Government, the speaker said, are conducting vigorous action in support of the efforts of the DPRK, aimed at reducing tension in the Korean peninsula and at attaining the independent and peaceful unification of Korea. Joint actions being undertaken by the peoples of both countries are an important contribution to ensuring security in Northeast Asia.

Kang Hui-won wished the Soviet people success in the cause of restructuring society and in the struggle to reduce nuclear weapons and expressed confidence that the present visit to the DPRK by a USSR party and government delegation will contribute to the strengthening of the relations of traditional friendship between the peoples of the two countries.

V.M. Chebrikov, who was next to speak, voiced thanks to the WPK Central Committee and the Republic's government for the opportunity to take part in the celebrations of the DPRK'S 40th anniversary and for the attention and hospitality shown the Soviet delegation. He stressed that the exchange of views on a wide range of issues took place during the delegation's meeting with Kim Il-song, general secretary of the WPK Central Committee and DPRK president, confirmed the mutual desire of the USSR and the DPRK for further comprehensive development of friendship and cooperation both at the bilateral level and in the struggle to ensure peace and security in the Far East and throughout the world.

The Soviet Union gives all-round support to the DPRK's efforts to organize inter-Korean dialogue and to remove the causes of tension in Korea, which is created by the presence in the south of the country of foreign troops equipped with nuclear weapons. A high value is placed in the USSR upon the constructive initiatives of the DPRK aimed at turning the peninsula into a non-nuclear peace zone and at carrying out a gradual reduction of the armed forces in that part of the globe, and other proposals by the Republic. The withdrawal of U.S. troops and their nuclear weapons from South Korea and the removing of military and political confrontation in the peninsula are becoming one of the most urgent tasks in the relaxation of tension in Asia. [Pyongyang KCNA in

English at 1506 GMT on 10 September in a similar report on Chebrikov's remarks adds: "Here we highly estimate the constructive proposals of the DPRK to establish a nuclear-free, peace zone on the Korean Peninsula, realize a phased arms reduction in Korea and have North-South parliamentary contact to adopt a non-aggression declaration, and to convene a broad conference of political parties and public organisations in the north and the south for the solution of the question of the country's peaceful reunification.

["Our two countries regard it as an urgent task for detente in Asia to withdraw U.S. forces and nuclear weapons from South Korea, remove political and military confrontation on the Korean Peninsula and create a healthy situation.

["We are convinced that the Korean people can shape the destiny of their country and achieve the reunification of the nation by themselves without any outside interference."]

Having spoken highly of the achievements of the Korean people in socioeconomic and political development over the past 40 years, V M Chebrikov noted that the Soviet Union shows great interest in the heroic labor of the working people of the DPRK to fulfill the large scale tasks of the Third 7-Year Plan. The head of the Soviet delegation wished the Korean people great successes in the cause of strengthening the material and technical base of the new society, raising the welfare of the people, and the further development of science and culture.

In conclusion, V M Chebrikov presented the working people of Pyongyang with a working model of a multipurpose milling machine on the production of which enterprises in Gorkiy and the Korean town of (?Hichkhong) will work jointly.

V M Chebrikov addressed members of staff at Soviet departments in Pyongyang on the same day.

Leaders Discuss Relations

PM1109142988 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 11 Sep 88 First Edition p 4

["Reception of Soviet Delegation by Kim Il-song"—PRAVDA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, 10 Sep—Yesterday, the 40th anniversary of the DPRK's formation, the Soviet party-government delegation headed by V.N. Chebrikov, member of the Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR KGB, attended a demonstration by the working people of Pyongyang in the city's main square. Over a million residents of the capital and its suburbs took part in the holiday parade; they were greeted by Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Workers Party of Korea Central Committee and president of the DPRK, and other leaders of the Republic.

The guests from the Soviet Union attended a reception in honor of the delegations participating in the celebrations and watched a firework display and the mass popular festivities which took place in downtown Pyongyang.

Pyongyang, 10 Sep—Kim Il-song, general secretary of Workers Party of Korea [WPK] Central Committee and DPRK president, today received the Soviet party and government delegation, led by V.M. Chebrikov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the USSR KGB, which is attending the celebrations marking the 40th anniversary of the DPRK's formation.

The Soviet delegation head conveyed to Kim Il-song congratulations on the occasion of the jubilee from M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, members of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo Soviet Communists and the whole Soviet people.

During the conversation, which passed in an atmosphere of fraternal friendship and comradely mutual understanding, the sides evaluated positively the dynamic development of bilateral economic, scientific-technical and cultural cooperation. This dynamic development characterizes the relations between the two countries at the new stage, which was initiated by the agreements reached during the Moscow Soviet-Korean summit meeting in October 1986. Note was taken of the high level of cooperation between the USSR and the DPRK in the international arena and the conviction was voiced that both countries would continue to make an appreciable contribution to the struggle of the socialist states and all the progressive forces in Asia to improve the political climate, lessen tension, ensuring peace and security in the Asian-Pacific region, and establish there an atmosphere of good-neighborliness and equal cooperation.

In an exchange of views on current international problems, Kim Il-song stated that Korean Communists and all working people in the Republic actively support the program put forward by the CPSU and the Soviet Government for a nonnuclear world, the creation of an all-embracing system of international security and the construction of a world free of force and wars.

The DPRK leader rated highly the selfless labor of the Soviet people, who are struggling to put into practice the policy adopted by the 27th CPSU Congress and confirmed by the 19th All-Union Party Conference, which is aimed at accelerating social and economic development, deepening the process of restructuring in the USSR and at consolidating peace throughout the world.

V.M. Chebrikov noted the great importance of the constructive initiatives of the WPK and the DPRK Government directed at reducing tension on the Korean Peninsula and around it and at arranging an inter-Korean dialogue. The world public has received with

attention and approval the DPRK's realistic and concrete proposals to stop the arms race and to reduce by as much as possible the level of military confrontation in Korea, to turn it into a nonnuclear, peaceful zone, to guarantee the peninsula a peaceful future via the signing by North and South of a nonaggression declaration.

Soviet people, V.M. Chebrikov declared, sincerely welcome the DPRK working people's achievements in the country's economic and social development, and they wish the fraternal Korean people new successes in fulfilling the Third 7-Year Plan for the development of the Republic's national economy, in implementing the tasks set by the Sixth Workers Party of Korea Congress, and in reuniting the motherland on a peaceful, democratic basis.

The sides emphasized the inestimable significance of the accumulated experience of settling regional conflicts for the elimination of dangerous seats of tension in Asia and throughout the world, and they voiced their profound interest in and readiness for a further active quest for ways of strengthening security and stability in the Far East and the Pacific basin.

Gift to Kim Il-song

SK1209050588 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0452 GMT 12 Sep 88

[Text] Pyongyang September 11 (KCNA)—The great leader President Kim Il-song was presented with a gift by the party and government delegation of the USSR headed by Comrade Viktor Mikhaylovich Chebrikov, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union and chairman of the State Security Committee of the USSR, which came to Korea to attend the celebrations of the 40th anniversary of the DPRK founding.

The gift was handed to an official concerned.

Discourages Disruption of Olympics

OW1009121088 Tokyo KYODO in English 1141 GMT 10 Sep 88

[Text] Seoul, Sept. 10 KYODO—The Soviet Union will apply pressure on North Korea to refrain from disrupting the Seoul Olympic Games, diplomatic sources said Saturday.

They said Gen. Viktor M. Chebrikov, head of the National Security Committee (KGB) was sent to Pyongyang to keep an eye on the North Koreans.

Chebrikov arrived in the North Korean capital Thursday to represent the Soviet Union at the celebration of North Korea's 40th founding anniversary Friday.

It was reported earlier that Soviet President Andrey Gromyko would attend the celebration and hold talks with his Chinese counterpart Yang Shangkun in Pyongyang on ways to improve bilateral relations.

The sources said Moscow changed the plan and sent Chebrikov instead because a Gromyko-Yang meeting in Pyongyang was no longer necessary as Beijing and Moscow had already made contacts for a summit meeting between the two communist giants.

They said Chebrikov's trip to Pyongyang was intended to discourage North Korea from resorting to terrorist action to disrupt the Seoul Olympics

Moscow also wished to advise North Korea through Chebrikov to promote reforms similar to Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev's perestroyka, the sources said.

Delegation Departs 11 Sep

LD1109095688 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0616 GMT 11 Sep 88

[Text] Pyongyang, 11 Sep (TASS)—The Soviet party and government delegation led by V.M. Chebrikov, member of the Politburo of the CPSU Central Commmittee and chairman of the USSR KGB, left Pyongyang for home today. It had been in the DPRK to take part in the celebrations on the occasion of the 40th anniversary of the formation of the republic. The delegation was seen off at the airport by Kye Ung-t'ae, member of the Politburo and secretary of the Workers Party of Korea [WPK] Central Comittee; Kang Hui-won, candidate member of the Politburo of the WPK Central Committee, responsible secretary of the Pyongyang WPK Committee, and chairman of the Pyongyang Administration and Economic Guidance Committee; and other official persons. The Soviet guests were warmly greeted by the working people of the capital of People's Korea.

Paper Writes on Jubilee

PM0809131188 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 7 Sep 88 Second Edition p 3

[V. Kondratyev article: "Under the Sun of Freedom: On the 40th Anniversary of the DPRK's Formation"]

[Text] The formation of the DPRK on 9 September 1948 was an outstanding event in the life of the Korean people, who had won freedom and independence in the struggle against the Japanese colonists with internationalist assistance from the Soviet Union. This event offered them broad prospects for the country's rapid development along a socialist path. It was also their timely reply to the divisive actions of the U.S. authorities and their stooges in Seoul, who held separate elections and created their own government organs in the south of Korea.

In the decades since then, the DPRK's working people, led by their militant vanguard, the Workers Party of Korea [WPK], have managed to transform their ancient land beyond recognition by means of selfless labor in close cooperation with the Soviet Union and other socialist countries. Now the Democratic People's Republic of Korea has been transformed into a socialist state with modern industry and developed agriculture. The working people's material well-being is increasing on the basis of the development of industrial and agricultural production. The WPK attaches special significance to the further growth of social consumption and the development of education, health care, social security, culture, and municipal services. Last year the DPRK's working people embarked on the fulfillment of the 3d 7-year national economic plan (1987-1993).

However, socialist building in the DPRK is being carried out under difficult conditions. In June 1950 the U.S.-created puppet government of Syngman Rhee provoked a civil war contrary to the Korean people's will. The U.S. imperialist intervention turned the internal Korean conflict into a bloody and devastating war which lasted 3 years. As a result of the U.S. military's criminal actions hundreds of thousands of DPRK citizens were killed, their towns and villages were reduced to ruins, and colossal damage was done to their national economy. With comprehensive help from the Soviet Union, the PRC, and other socialist countries the DPRK people honorably defended their motherland's independence against the mighty adversary's onslaught. The signing of the Agreement on the Armistice in Korea on 27 July 1953 signaled the failure of the plans of the South Korean reaction headed by Syngman Rhee and the reactionary U.S. circles supporting it.

After the armistice was concluded a powerful grouping of U.S. Armed Forces numbering more than 40,000 men and armed with tactical nuclear weapons remained on South Korean soil. Furthermore, the U.S. military has been saying all the time that in certain situations the United States will resort to using nuclear weapons in Korea.

For the past 35 years successive regimes in Seoul have been hiding behind the myth of the "growing threat of aggression from the North" and using Washington's help to strengthen their military potential and try to enhance the offensive readiness of the South Korean Armed Forces. Each year South Korea's Armed Forces hold joint large-scale maneuvers and exercises with U.S. troops.

It is clear that such a military-political situation in the Far East poses a constant threat to the DPRK's security and forces it to take the necessary measures in response to maintain its defense capability. At the same time the Republic's leadership has repeatedly made official statements at the most authoritative level that it does not harbor the intention to "attack the south" attributed to it by hostile propaganda or to resolve the problem of the country's unification by military means.

On the contrary, its practical policy has been and remains based on the belief that the only correct and, in our day, realistic way to resolve the Korean problem is a political settlement in Korea based on the withdrawal of the U.S. troops, the strengthening of peace on the peninsula, and the development of ties and contacts between North and South with the aim of restoring the country's national unity in accordance with the interests and will of all Koreans.

In an attempt to halt the dangerous course of events on the Korean Peninsula, the DPRK's leadership has in recent years put forward major far-reaching initiatives. In 1986, for example, the Republic's government took a unilateral decision not to hold major military maneuvers and to suspend all military exercises during the period of talks between North and South and urged the United States and South Korea to follow this good example. In the same year the DPRK Government unilaterally virtually proclaimed the North to be free of nuclear weapons and proposed to the United States and the South Korean regime that the entire Korean peninsula be given nuclear-free status. In 1987 the DPRK Government put forward an extensive plan for phased movement toward the relaxation of tension on the Korean peninsula and the creation of North-South parity through troop reduction so that in 1992 each side's armed forces would number no more than 100,000 men and all U.S. troops and nuclear weapons would leave South Korea. In a show of goodwill the DPRK Government took the first step toward an accord and by the end of 1987 had unilaterally reduced its armed forces by 100,000. It is obvious to any unbiased person that these proposals by the DPRK Government create a good basis for fruitful talks and the attainment of real agreements in the interests of improving the situation on the Korean Peninsula and easing tension in the Far East. As Pyongyang stresses, those proposals remain fully in force today.

In marking the 40th anniversary of the proclamation of the DPRK, Soviet people wish its working people happiness, prosperity, and new successes in socialist building. On this portentous day Soviet people restate their firm support for the DPRK's just demands to end the imperialist interference in the Korean people's internal affairs and to give Koreans the opportunity to determine the nation's fate themselves in conditions of peace.

DPRK Economic Achievements, Problems Viewed

PM0809142788 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 8 Sep 88 Second Edition p 4

[Own correspondent V. Razuvayev article: "Ancient and Modern: 9 September Is the 40th Anniversary of the DPRK's Formation"]

[Excerpt] Pyongyang—[Passage omitted] The Korean working people's achievements in the economic and social spheres and in strengthening the material and

technical base of socialism are indisputable. But they do not mean that the country's development is smooth. Party documents and speeches by the republic's leaders have pointed to the complex problems which the country is meeting at the present stage of socialist building. For example, there is much to be done to increase power capacities, ensure the preferential development of the mining industry, improve the work of transport, develop ferrous and nonferrous metallurgy, expand scientific research, and introduce their results into production as quickly as possible.

Active work is being conducted in the country to resolve those and other problems, to eliminate the shortcomings, and to overcome the difficulties. In this respect our Korean friends also rely on the great creative potential and advantages of the system created in the country and on the friendship and cooperation with the socialist countries and the Soviet Union.

At the plants, factories, and scientific research institutions which I visited I more than once heard words of gratitude to Soviet people for their fraternal assistance in socialist building. Workers and engineers at the Sunchkhon [name as published] vinal [vinalonovoye] association spoke of this. The Chongjin metallurgical workers also spoke warmly about their Soviet colleagues who are helping them to expand production capacities at the Kim Chaek plant, the flagship of the republic's ferrous metallurgy industry. During the prejubilee competition they speeded up the assembly and commissioning of another converter, the third so far, a continuous steel casting mount, and other facilities. Work is now being completed here on the second stage of the expansion of production capacities. When they are commissioned, the production of steel and accordingly of rolled metal will rise from 1 million to 2.4 million tonnes. Soviet specialists are giving the plant's collective great assistance.

"These days, when Korea's working people are celebrating the republic's 40th anniversary," Aleksandr Vashchuk, secretary of our specialists' party bureau, said, "our entire collective, around 100 people in all, is working to full capacity to ensure the earliest possible commissioning of equipment and the faultless working of all units. We see this as our internationalist duty..."

Further on Meeting of USSR-MPR Panel

PM0809125188 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 5 Sep 88 Morning Edition p 3

[TASS report: "Session Concluded"]

[Text] Ulaanbaatar, 3 Sep—The 34th session of the Soviet-Mongolian Intergovernmental Commission on Economic, Scientific, and Technical Cooperation ended its work here today. The Soviet delegation was headed by V.S. Murakhovskiy, first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, and the Mongolian by B. Altangerel, deputy chairman of the Mongolian Council of Ministers.

Guided by the decisions of the 27th CPSU Congress and the 19th MPRP Congress and the accords reached during the June 1987 meeting between M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and J. Batmonh, general secretary of the MPRP Central Committee and chairman of the Mongolian People's Republic People's Great Hural, the commission devoted the main attention to drawing up measures to increase the effectiveness of Soviet-Mongolian economic, scientific, and technical cooperation and to improve its mechanism.

It examined ways of implementing the provisions of the concept for the development of economic ties between the USSR and Mongolia in the period through the year 2005, which laid down agreed avenues for economic collaboration and the long-term development of socialist economic integration between the two countries. Priority in this work is assigned to spheres like agriculture, light and food industry, the fuel and energy complex, and the mining industry. The further development of these sectors will make it possible to create a weighty potential for satisfying domestic needs, increasing accumulations, and boosting export resources.

Taking part in the work of the session, which proceeded in an atmosphere of businesslike cooperation, fraternal friendship, and complete mutual understanding, were D. Molomjamts, member of the MPRP Central Committee Politburo; S. Lubsangombo, candidate member of the MPRP Central Committee Politburo; S. Gungaadorj, P. Jasray, and M. Peljee, deputy chairmen of the Mongolian Council of Ministers; Mongolian Ambassador to the USSR Ts. Gurbadam; USSR Ambassador to Mongolia V.I. Sitnikov; and other officials.

Commentary Scores Japan-U.S. Security Rapport

OW1109124588 Moscow in Japanese to Japan 1000 GMT 8 Sep 88

[Text] The Japan-U.S. Security Treaty was first signed on 8 September 1951 together with the San Francisco Peace Treaty. In reference to this, military commentator Kalinin comments as follows:

The signing of the security treaty marked the official beginning of Japan-U.S. military cooperation.

The security treaty had anticipated the stationing of U.S. forces in Japan. In the preamble to the treaty, it was stated that this measure would be only for a provisional period of time, but still, 37 years after the fact, the U.S. military presence in Japan continues.

At present there are over 120 U.S. military bases in Japan, and the number will grow further in the near future. For instance, Japan's Defense Agency plans to build a night-landing practice airstrip on Iwo Jima for night takeoff and landing exercises by deck planes of the U.S. carrier Midway. In addition, studies are being made on the possibility of U.S. forces coming to aid Japan in

case of a so-called contingency, and storing weapons, ammunition, and other materiel in advance in Japan for use in such situations—which no doubt will eventually require expansion of warehouses and other military facilities.

Furthermore, it has become clear that the United States is viewing Japan as a possible area to which the military bases now in the Philippines may be moved.

Japan is saying that the U.S. military presence in Japan serves the security purposes of the country. But is this claim reasonable?

According to official data, more than 1,200 Japanese have died because of Americans since the security treaty came into effect. Criminal cases involving U.S. soldiers in Japan and life-endangering accidents have run to more than 167,000. One of the recent examples of life-endangering accidents is the crash into a mountainside in Iwate Prefecture of an F-16 U.S. fighter-bomber capable of carrying nuclear arms . Fortunately, there were no casualties from the accident this time, but it could have easily led to a tragic misfortune.

If residents of a country alleged to be protected by the United States become victims of the United States, what kind of security can this be?

Worthy of note is a fact concerning the U.S. forces stationed in Japan: Japan is being exposed to even more dangers and is being drawn deeper into the U.S. nuclear strategy. To cite only a few facts, F-16's have been deployed to Misawa Airbase, and according to the U.S. Forces Command in Japan, these fighter-bombers engage periodically in training, assuming nuclear war situations. And last month, the U.S. warhips "Bunker Hill" and "Fife" equipped with Tomahawk cruise missiles docked at Yokosuka Naval Base, and they will use Yosokuka as its base. According to related data, the cruiser "Bunker Hill" is said to be carrying 6 nuclear warheads and the destroyer "Fife" 11 nuclear warheads.

There is much known evidence that other U.S. warships and submarines that have called on Japanese ports have carried nuclear weapons. And we must not exclude the probability that nuclear weapons are secretly stored at the U.S. military bases in Japan.

Some facts endorsing the probability indirectly are that radioactive radon gas was discovered at Kadena Airbase and Yokota Airbase 2 months ago. There has never been any report of this gas having been found in Japan except for these 2 places. To talk about these two bases of Kadena and Yokota more, there have on many previous occasions been sightings of containers carrying nuclear missile ASROC [anti-submarine rockets] there. [sentence as heard]

It is not coincidental that in opinion polls conducted among students in Japan recently, 72 percent of the respondents replied that they do not believe the Three Non-Nuclear Principles are observed in Japan. For Japan, which has experienced the tragedy of atomic bombings, the possible consequences of its risky policies should be clearer.

As seen here, the Japan-U.S. Security Treaty does not serve the purpose of security. On the contrary, it is creating threats to the security of Japan. Nor is it used in serving the purpose of maintaining peace in the Far East.

U.S. Naval Group Off Korean Peninsula

LD0809112288 Moscow TASS in English 0920 GMT 8 Sep 88

[Text] Tokyo September 8 TASS—TASS correspondent Anatoliy Krasnov reports:

The U.S. attack aircraft carrier "Midway", registered with the port of Yokosuka, left the American naval base there and headed for the Korean Peninsula under the pretext of ensuring safety of the Seoul Olympic Games.

The U.S. Naval Command in Japan, the KYODO TSUSHIN reports, refused to disclose concrete plans of using the powerful warship with a water dispalcement of 67,000 tons which carries aboard over 70 combat planes, among them nuclear-capable aircraft. The news agency supposes that after the entry to the U.S. Naval Base Sasebo (Kyushu Island) to replenish ammunition stocks Midway will carry out a mission of patrolling coastal waters.

Newest warships of the U.S. Seventh Fleet—the missile cruiser "Bunker Hill" and the destroyer "Fife", equipped, according to the data of the Japanese peace campaigners, with nuclear-capable sea-based Tomahawk cruise missiles, which were stationed in Yokosuka late last month, will leave it in the near future to participate in operations jointly with the aircraft carrier.

A big U.S. aircraft carrier group, ten warships in all, are expected to enter the Sea of Japan next week. The group is led by the attack nuclear-powered aircraft carrier Nimitz, with a water displacement of 81,600 tons. Thus, the KYODO TSUSHIN notes, a big U.S. striking force of two reinforced aircraft carrier squadrons will be amassed in the area of the Korean Peninsula.

Southeast Asia & Pacific

SRV's Vo Chi Cong To Visit Late Sep

LD1109130888 Moscow TASS in English 1302 GMT 11 Sep 88

[Text] Moscow September 11 TASS—It was officially announced here that Vo Chi Cong, member of the Political Bureau of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee, president of the Council of State of

the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, will pay an official friendly visit to the Soviet Union in the latter half of September, 1988. He was invited by the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR.

Further Reportage on Current Situation in Burma

Soviet Workers' Families Evacuated

LD1009061788 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0000 GMT 10 Sep 88

[Text] [Announcer] Our correspondent for the countries of Southeast Asia, Viktor Konov, reports on the latest events in Burma:

[Konov] U Nu, the former prime minister of Burma, who was removed from power in 1962 as a result of a military coup, has announced the formation of a provisional government of Burma. U Un, who is now 81 years old, has called on the international community to recognize his provisional government, and has stated that there will be general elections in Burma on 9 October.

The formation of a provisonal government, the true political influence of which it is as yet hard to evaluate, was preceded by a general strike that began yesterday and a protest march in the Burmese capital, Rangoon. About a million demonstrators took part in it, chanting one word: democracy. The police did not interfere with the protest march. At the same time they opened fire on a large group of people who were trying to get into the state tobacco factory. As a result, 17 people were wounded. The leaders of the opposition, who include the daughter of Burma's national hero Aung San, say that the looting is being provoked by the Army and police, who intentionally throw open the gates of factories, works, and storehouses, and then open fire on people entering them.

Foreign missions in Rangoon are evacuating the members of the families of their workers and technical experts in Burma. On Wednesday a group of family members of workers of Soviet institutions in Rangoon left for home. A number of countries that have announced the evacuation of their citizens were unable to carry it out today because of the strike that has started among the employees of the capital's Mingaladon Airport. The workers at the airport have stated that they will not return to their work until the current government of Maung Maung has resigned.

Uncertainty remains in the government. A number of figures from the ruling party, including nine heroes from the Burma National Liberation Movement, have declared that they are breaking with the regime. An official representative of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Burma announced that the majority of employees of the Burmese Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Burma's diplomatic missions abroad have left the ruling party and come out in support of the provisional government. How long the dual power that in practice exists at present will last is difficult to say. In all likelihood the extraordinary congress of the ruling party will be the next event which may be decisive for the further development of the situation. At the congress, which is supposed to open on Monday, the Burmese Socialist Program Party will examine the possibility of holding a national referendum. The referendum is meant to solve the problem of confidence in the present government and whether the one-party system will be maintained in Burma.

Call for Elections

PM1209095188 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 12 Sep 88 Morning Edition p 1

[Report by A. Ostalskiy and TASS report under general heading: "Burma: Start of a New Era?"—first paragraph is IZVESTIYA introduction]

[Text] The Central Committee of the ruling Burma Socialist Program Party [BSPP] and following it the early extraordinary party congress on Saturday gave in to the opposition's demands, agreeing to the introduction of a multiparty system in the country and the holding of general elections.

There is no doubt that this decision was forced: The authorities are having to make concessions in the face of the unprecedentedly wide-scale protest demonstrations and civil disobedience. Hundreds of thousands of people—students, workers, and employees—are taking part in the daily demonstrations in Rangoon and the country's other major cities. In recent days the demonstrations have been joined by policemen, members of the air force, and seamen. Increasingly frequently, whole military subunits are moving to the side of the regime's opponents.

When people speak of the reasons for the very deep political crisis which has gripped the country, which has been ruled with an iron hand for over 25 years by the military and the BSPP, they mention primarily the sorry state of the national economy.

You form the impression that the government has been somewhat late in making concessions. At least, REUTER reports, that is the opinion of the student organizations most active in the opposition ranks, which have stated that they will continue the struggle right up to the resignation of the present government.

Meanwhile, former Burmese Prime Minister U Nu, overthrown by the military in 1962, has announced the formation of a parallel government. But it is reported that not all opposition leaders are ready to support him unconditionally.

At the Last Minute [subhead]

Rangoon, 11 Sep (TASS)—General elections on a multiparty basis will be held in Burma in the next 3 months or, if the opposition demands, they could be held earlier. This decision was made today by the extraordinary session of Burma's People's Assembly (parliament) convened here yesterday.

Strikes Continue

LD1209082188 Moscow TASS in English 0808 GMT 12 Sep 88

[Text] Toyko September 12 TASS—TASS correspondent Vladimir Solentsev reports:

Thousands of demonstrators this morning again thronged streets of Burma's capital where a general strike is under way. The opposition forces continue demanding immediate resignation of the Maung Maung government and formation of a provisional government, despite the decision, taken at the Sunday extraordinary session of the People's Assembly (parliament of Burma) that general elections on a multiparty basis be held in the next three months. The KYODO TSUSHIN news agency reports that over 300,000 people were involved in yesterday's demonstrations in Rangoon alone, making these demands. According to NHK television company, public transport is practically idle, except some local trains. Large-scale demonstrations were held in Mandalay, the country's second largest city, and other Burmese cities.

About 1,500 people, who went on strike on Sunday in Rangoon, also demanded resignation of the government. A number of state employees joined the action of protest, involving students, clergymen and nurses, despite the stern warning of President Maung Maung that the strike be ended and all people should return to work. Another hunger strike is being simultaneously held in Mandalay.

Evacuation of Japanese, Americans and citizens of some other Western countries has meanwhile begun from Burma. The NHK reported today that a special plane took 229 people, among them 105 Japanese, to the capital of neighbouring Thailand from Rangoon. One of them said in an interview to a correspondent of the television company that he had repeatedly heard shots not far from his house.

Burmese Way to Socialism Viewed

BK1009025088 Moscow in Burmese to Burma 1030 GMT 8 Sep 88

[Report on station correspondent's interview with (Aleksandr Arkadinya), "historian and expert on Burmese affairs" in the Eastern Division of the Soviet Academy of Sciences]

[Text] I believe that the extreme severity of the economic hardships in Burma in recent times are directly responsible for the enormous mass demonstrations and protests in the country. The scarcity of basic commodities, the rising prices of foodstuffs and fuel oil, and last year's demonetization severely affected the life of ordinary Burmese. In the meantime, the economic situation of the country in its dealings with the outside world is of grave concern. Simply looking at the prediction of experts that Burma this year will have to utilize all its export earnings to service loans taken from Western creditor nations should make the situation amply clear. However, it would be wrong to blame everything on economic difficulties, because as everyone knows, politics and economics go hand in hand. It is not without reason that the opposition forces in Burma are using political slogans as their main tool in their demonstrations and protests.

It is true that the opposition forces are proposing a multiparty system. From what we understand, the extraordinary congress of the Burma Socialist Program Party [BSPP] called for 12 September will deliberate on that matter. However, opposition forces which have taken to the streets to demonstrate are no longer prepared to wait and are demanding the immediate setting up of an interim government. It is evident that only the Burmese people can decide what changes should be made in their country.

When our station correspondent asked his opinion, as an expert on Burmese affairs, regarding reports from Burma, (Aleksandr Arkadinya) said: I view the political system introduced in Burma following 1962 as a system of people's government. It is a phenomenon quite popular in the developing world in recent years. The peculiarities of such governments are that at the time of assuming power, they usually announce progressive reforms which, to a certain extent, reflect the interests of the people. Governments of that sort, and this is not limited to Burma alone, despite their lack of essential economic bases, believe that the people's enthusiasm alone will help realize the reforms introduced and thereby ensure the success of all their programs. Such arrangements have been made time and again though not by objectively taking into account the socioeconomic practicalities but through fundamental revolutionary instincts. But when such governments find that the results they have dreamed of are not going to be realized, they start working more for their survival than to achieve their declared goals. This is a natural phenomenon. This, however, is not the characteristic of leaders who take over the reins of power with a genuine desire to work for positive goals. Such a phenomenon manifests itself in different forms in many countries, and I believe that some of what I mentioned has been reflected in political developments of Burma in the post-1962 period. It is evident to all observers that whatever the objectives the BSPP may have outlined in its manifesto, the actual conditions in the country are quite different.

When our correspondent asked the expert for his opinion about Western publications saying that the Burmese leadership itself had pushed the country toward the current state of affairs through its closed door policy, he said: I believe that the Burmese people have their own reasons for fearing that cooperation with Western

nations will invite foreign interference. Lessons have been learned from history, but practice has also shown that positive results cannot be achieved in developing countries which adopt a national development strategy that relies on domestic resources alone. Perhaps it was believed that Burma could continue to develop on the basis of the development it had attained in 1962 without making any changes to its socioeconomic direction. Experience has also shown that since capitalist nations only want to keep Burma as a source of agricultural raw materials, they would not permit it. Are the Burmese people willing to give something up in return for economic development as in Thailand and Malaysia? It is not something we can answer; I believe that the Burmese people will have to answer it by themselves. What I want to point out here is that questions of justice, national independence, and equality have been widely accepted among the Burmese people since the time of General Aung San.

Excessive centralized control has aggravated economic problems. It is common knowledge that Burma could not make much capital investment in the public production sectors. It is therefore obvious that in such a situation the private sector should be retained in the trading and light industrial areas. This is something that the Burmese people themselves have told me.

Today, some commentators are trying to show not only to the Burmese people but also to the people of nearby countries that socialism is to be blamed for the troubled situation. Our correspondent asked the expert his opinion on this.

What has to be pointed out here is that the scientific definition of socialism contains nothing that could be construed as being against the interests of the people; socialism, in fact, serves the interests of the people. But socialism in Burma is somewhat esoteric, and that is why it is called the Burmese way to socialism. The Burmese way to socialism also reflects local Buddhist traditions. Declaring one's intent on socialism is not enough; what is important is how one puts one's plans into practice. But the question here is: Was Burma actually following genuine socialist principles in its developmental tasks and is the Burmese way to socialism close to genuine socialism? I do not believe that we can answer yes to these questions. Simply undertaking the introduction of land reforms with the aim of distributing land to the farmers and nationalizing foreign interests alone cannot be called socialism because these are merely general tasks of a democracy.

To the last question posed by our station correspondent—how will the situation in Burma develop in the foreseeable future—the expert stated: I cannot foresee the future, I can only refer to facts. However, I think it is regrettable that dispatches today by Western news agencies do not paint an objective picture of the events in Burma. We must also admit that our research department even before was not able to obtain all the necessary facts. But, this being an important time for Burma, I believe it is not appropriate to offer set formulae to the Burmese people as was done by a U.S. representative who recently visited Rangoon.

Citizens 'Will Choose' Own System

BK1109094488 Moscow in Burmese to Burma 1430 GMT 10 Sep 88

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] The Burmese authorities have announced that general elections will be held under a multiparty system. According to observers in Rangoon, the decision was a response by Dr Maung Maung's government to the demands being made by the people to restore democracy in the life of Burmese society. Demonstrations have been held throughout Burma in recent days to press these demands. The demonstrations, the rallies, and the processions in which hundreds of thousands of people took part were accompanied by cries for democracy. In response to these, the Burma Socialist Program Party [BSPP], as you already know, had previously scheduled a meeting on 12 September to deliberate on the holding of a national referendum that would decide whether a single party or a multiparty system should be adopted. However, as the demonstrations intensified with the participation of people from all the strata of Burmese society, it became apparent that new steps would have to be taken to bring about democracy.

Numerous political organizations and associations have emerged amid the demonstrations and movements; the All Burma Students Union was reestablished, the League for Democracy and Peace was formed, and even a provisional government was set up. That government, headed by U Nu, decided to hold general elections on 9 October. Since in practice it means that a parallel government has emerged in the country, such a situation cannot continue for very long. It is believed that the decision by the BSPP leaders to hold general elections open to various political forces was in accordance with the demands of the situation. Resolving the political problem in such a way will also usher in the beginning of efforts to tackle economic hardships—the main cause that drove the country toward the present difficulties.

The grave situation in the country is being aggravated by a heavy foreign debt burden. Some Western circles believe that this is a good opportunity to pressure Burma, and it appears that they are trying to influence developments and the outcome of the situation in the country. The statement by U.S. Congressman Solarz after his short visit to Burma that he intends to pass a congressional resolution on Burma should be particularly noticed in this context.

Observers in Rangoon, however, doubt that the answer to Burma's internal problems can be found outside the country. It is believed that the Burmese people will choose their own system and decide who should lead the country at this time when great responsibilities lie ahead of them.

News from Rangoon says that mass demonstrations are continuing in the capital and in other Burmese cities.

Carlucci Statement on Cambodia Examined

BK1009113988 Moscow in Cambodian to Cambodia 1330 GMT 9 Sep 88

[Station observer Viktor Valentinov commentary]

[Text] An old Chinese saying that is still very popular goes: Why try to catch a black cat in a dark room where there is no cat at all?

This saying is used whenever the current situation is hopeless and even meaningless. It seems to still be popular because there are still people who like to catch black cats in dark rooms where there are no cats.

Our observer, Comrade Viktor Valentinov, explains:

I thought of this saying about a black cat in a dark room when I read an article about U.S. Defense Secretary Frank Carlucci's stay in Beijing, particularly his statement on the Cambodian problem.

Citing Carlucci's statement, the Chinese news agency XINHUA reported: The goal currently being pursued by the United States is to force Vietnam to withdraw from Cambodia.

Listeners might ask: How does this relate to the black cat saying?

This is because the United States and some other countries keep stressing the need to force Vietnam to withdraw its troops from Cambodia. What is the true story about this?

To closely and consistently follow the situation, we should look back to events in the past 6 years, that is since 1982 when the SRV Government stated clearly that the Vietnamese Army volunteers would be in Cambodia only for a period of time. When there was no further danger that the genocidal regime might return to power, the Vietnamese Army volunteers would certainly return home. In that year, 1982, the first contingent of Vietnamese Army units, which came to Cambodia at the invitation of the PRK Government, was withdrawn. Since then, the number of Vietnamese troops in Cambodia has decreased with each passing day. At this point, a very large number of them have been withdrawn.

It is known to all that Hanoi and Phnom Penh have agreed to withdraw all Vietnamese Army volunteers in 1990. In May of this year, Vietnam made a decision that has been welcomed by all—by the end of this year, Vietnam will withdraw half of its troops, that is 30,000 troops, from Cambodia. The remaining units will be withdrawn completely from Cambodia in the first quarter of 1990. However, if the Cambodian opposition forces reach an agreement, the Vietnamese troop withdrawal could be completed in 1989.

There is another point that is very important. Vietnam has stated that its troops will absolutely be withdrawn, whether the Cambodian groups reach an agreement or not.

Therefore, we would like to ask listeners: In this case, does the U.S. defense secretary's statement that all forces should be mobilized to force Vietnam to withdraw its troops from Cambodia make sense?

In our opinion, this is really an attempt to catch a black cat in a dark room where there is no cat at all.

At first glance, this matter seems to be insignificant. But after examining this closely, the goal of the U.S. activities can be clearly detected. First, after all the Vietnamese Army volunteers are withdrawn from Cambodia in accordance with the agreement reached with the PRK Government, the U.S. side will certainly take this as its own success and as the fruit of its efforts. Second, they loudly talk about the withdrawal of Vietnamese troops in an attempt to cover up the problem of ensuring that the Pol Pot clique will not return to power in Cambodia.

During the meeting on the Cambodian problem held in Indonesia in July of this year, the Cambodian factions agreed to examine the problem of the withdrawal of Vietnamese Army volunteers simultaneously with the problem of how to prevent the Pol Pot clique from returning to power.

Now, it seems that Washington is attempting to break off this agreement.

Near East & South Asia

PFLP's Habash Holds Moscow Talks

Meets Korniyenko

LD0909222788 Moscow TASS in English 2045 GMT 9 Sep 88

[Text] Moscow September 10 TASS—A delegation of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine was staying in Moscow from September 6 to September 9 at the invitation of the Soviet Afro-Asian Solidarity Committee. The delegation consisted of General Secretary of the Front George Habash (the delegation's leader), member

of the PLO Executive Committee Abu 'Ali Mustafa, member of the Political Bureau of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine Ahmad Yamani and others.

The delegation had conversations with First Deputy Chief of the International Department of the CPSU Central Committee Georgiy Korniyenko, at the USSR Foreign Ministry and in the Soviet Afro-Asian Solidarity Committee.

The members of the delegation spoke highly of the process of perestroyka in the USSR, pointing to its great positive influence on the improvement of the international situation.

Both sides condemned resolutely the repressive policy of Israel's ruling Zionist circles in occupied Arab territories. It was emphasized that alongside the Soviet-American treaty on intermediate-range and shorter-range missiles, the Geneva accords on Afghanistan, the ceasefire on the Iran-Iraq front, a comprehensive solution to the Arab-Israeli conflict could make a weighty contribution to the establishment of a nuclear weapons free and non-violent world. And the sides noted that without the solution of the problem central to the Palestinian speople—its right to self-determination and creation of its own independent state—there will be no durable peace and stability in the Middle East. The road to the solution is through the convocation of an international peace conference with equal participation of all the parties concerned including the PLO, the sole lawful representative of the Palestinian people.

The delegation of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine expressed profound gratitude to Soviet people for their solidarity with the uprising of the Palestinian Arab people in the occupied Palestinian territories.

Views Palestinian Solution

LD0909230688 Moscow International Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 9 Sep 88

[Excerpts] A Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine [PFLP] delegation, headed by Comrade George Habash, the front's secretary general, visited Moscow this week at the invitation of Soviet social organizations. The delegation members were received at the CPSU Central Committee and the Soviet Foreign Ministry. They also met with representatives of the Soviet public in the Soviet Committee of Friendship and Solidarity With the Palestinian Arab People and the Soviet Committee of Afro-Asian Solidarity.

The Soviet Committee of Afro-Asian Solidarity held a press conference with Comrade George Habash at the request of a group of Soviet and foreign journalists. The conference was opened by the secretary of the Soviet Committee of Afro-Asian Solidarity, Anatoliy Ilin. [passage omitted]

At the request of all the journalists present in the room, the secretary of the Soviet Committee of Afro-Asian Solidarity asked Comrade Habash to talk about the essential points of the current Palestinian struggle:

[Begin Habash recording] I cannot begin before expressing my happiness and that of my comrades to be in Moscow, citadel of the socialist and progressive forces and the forces of liberation in the world. This is an opportunity to express the immense gratitude felt by the masses of Palestinians toward this friendly country, its people, party, government, and state. Neither can I begin before expressing my gratitude to the committee of solidarity which gives us such opportunities with its virtually annual—if not regular—invitations to us. [end recording]

In reply to a question, the PFLP secretary general stated:

[Begin Habash recording] In short, the most prominent and important event in our Palestinian and Arab arena is undoubtedly the uprising, its continuity, its intensification, and its organization through the phenomenon of the popular committees.

During the march of the uprising we were faced with Jordan's latest measures, namely its decision to disengage the administrative and legal relations with the West Bank, which we now call the Palestinian Bank. We in the PLO, as well as we in the PFLP and most of the factions of the Palestinian revolution, welcomed this latest Jordanian step and considered it a victory for the uprising. However, our welcome does not prevent us but enjoins us to reveal the true intentions behind this step. We expressed our fear that the intention of the Jordanian decision was to increase the burdens on the PLO until it caved in under their weight and was unable to continue its peaceful march, which in turn would compel the PLO to return to the Jordanian regime once again and to ask it to take part in this march.

The PLO Executive Committee has held a series of meetings, and it will hold other meetings prior to the National Council to define its answer on the recent situation and put this issue before the forthcoming concil. There are several options open to the PLO. The following three are the most important ones we now have in mind:

1. We ask the United Nations and the international community to administer temporarily the occupied Palestinian territories to pave the way for the convocation of an international conference, which will ultimately decide the final status of these territories and the Palestinian issue in all its aspects.

2. We declare our right to establish our Palestinian state based on the people's right to self-determination and on the UN Charter, which stipulates the peoples' right to self-determination.

3. The third and last option that the PLO has in mind is to announce the formation of a provisional government after the proclamation of this state.

We in the PFLP adopt the first option, the UN and international option, because it is the option agreed on by the Arabs and the Palestinians. It is agreed on by the Palestinians inside the occupied territories and outside, that is the unified national leadership and the PLO. [end recording]

During the press conference George Habash answered other questions from journalists. One of these was on the reaction of the Soviet Union to the debate within the PLO leadership. In response, the PFLP secretary general said that the Soviet Union was also closely examining all possible Palestinian developments. However, George Habash indicated that there were not, nor could there be, any pressure from the Soviet Union on the PLO and its leadership to make one decision or another.

The PFLP secretary general added that the Soviet Union had always respected Palestinian decisions and helped in their adoption, even when that decision differed somewhat from its own view on a given issue.

Talks With Polyakov

JN0909132488 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1200 GMT 9 Sep 88

[Text] PFLP Secretary General George Habash and the delegation accompanying him have concluded an official visit to Moscow. During the visit the PFLP delegation held talks with party and government officials, particularly Vladimir Polyakov, chief of the Soviet Foreign Ministry's Near Eastern and North African Countries Administration.

According to PFLP sources, the topics discussed during the talks included Palestinian developments and the escalation of the uprising in the occupied territories in the direction of a declaration of general civil disobedience. The two sides also reaffirmed their condemnation of Israel's repressive measures, the policy of deportation and continued demographic destruction, and organized violation of human rights.

The PFLP delegation called for international protection for the Palestinian people through the temporary supervision of UN forces over the occupied territory and guaranteeing a just and lasting solution.

The Soviet side emphasized its continued support for the Palestinian people's struggle and uprising until the Palestinian people achieve their goals of self-determination and the establishemnt of an independent state under their sole and legitimate representative, the PLO.

Kabul Denies Plane Downed in Pakistan

LD1009105188 Moscow TASS in English 1034 GMT 10 Sep 88

[Text] Kabul September 10 TASS—The Republic of Afghanistan resolutely refuted Western press reports that on September 7 an Afghan warplane had been allegedly downed in Pakistani air space.

The Afghan Foreign Ministry spokesman said that allegations circulated by Pakistan since the start of September about bombing of inhabited localities on the Pakistani territory by the Afghan Air Force, were groundless. The authorities of that country, contrary to their own statements, cannot produce any material evidence, to wit: fragments of allegedly downed planes. Therefore, it can be confidently stated that Islamabad's groundless allegations are nothing but a part of a massive anti-Afghan campaign unleashed in the West, above all in the USA. The Pakistani authorities responded with slander against Afghanistan to the growing movement for restoration of democracy in Pakistan, formation of a civil government, improvement of relations with neighbouring countries and observation of Geneva accords on Afghanistan.

On the other hand, noted the Foreign Ministry spokesman, it is not accidental that the accusations against Afghanistan and the start of the conference of non-aligned foreign ministers in Nicosia coincide in time. Islamabad seeks in this way to divert the attention of the Non-Aligned Movement whose overwhelming majority stands out for realization of the Geneva agreements, from its own repeated violations of these important international documents.

In this context the Afghan Foreign Ministry spokesman pointed to the importance of Afghanistan's proposals on setting up a special commission to be made up of Afghan, Pakistani, Soviet and U.S. experts to examine mutual accusations and violations of the Geneva accords. Working under the control of U.N. observers, such a commission would preclude unsubtantiated claims of sides against each other, he said.

Explosion Kills 10 in Central Kabul

LD1109142188 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1400 GMT 11 Sep 88

[Text] Kabul, 11 Sep (TASS)—There were many victims among the inhabitants of Kabul as the result of another explosion in the center of the city. This afternoon a car packed with explosives went up in the air on one of the busy streets in Shahr-e Now District. The crime, prepared and carried out by Afghan extremists, cost 10 people their lives, children and women among them. According to preliminary information, another 40 town residents were injured. Vast damage was done to the "Afghan Cart" trading company's building, close to the Pakistan Embassy, and 40 shops were partially or entirely destroyed, as were 10 cars. Fires also broke out.

Truck Carrying Explosives Seized in Afghanistan

LD1109184588 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1430 GMT 11 Sep 88

[From the "Vremya" newscast; video report from Kabul by Mikhail Leshchinskiy]

[Text] A Mercedes Benz truck with registration plates from the Pakistani town of Peshawar was stopped on this road on the way into Kabul. It is just over 200 km from here by direct route to the Pakistani border, and the armed Afghan opposition tries by every available means to use this road to supply arms, ammunition, and explosives to the town.

Only an experienced professional eye could single out this truck from the hundreds traveling to Kabul. It was carrying vehicle tires and other goods, but just look at what was found under the wooden boards: a thick layer of this white substance covering a false bottom in the truck, under which were plastic explosives.

This explosive is almost twice as powerful as TNT. In this instance, the truck was not only the means of supplying it but it was also a huge homemade bomb itself. Detonators were fixed in the plastic explosives and fuses led to the driver's cab. UN military observers were shown this load which had come unhindered from Pakistan. The Afghan Foreign Ministry has already told them about 430 violations by Pakistan of the Geneva accords.

The terrible force of the explosion that might have occurred can easily be seen if one looks at the way the tiniest fragement of this substance burns, for the truck contained 1.5 tons of it. That would have caused an explosion with a force equivalent to a 650 kg aircraft bomb and would undoubtedly have shaken the whole of Kabul. And all the more so since the extremists were planning to let it off in the most crowded and busy place, here in the center near the town's largest store. Not long ago a similar act of sabotage was prevented at the bread combine where several hundred kilograms of plastic explosive were rendered harmless in time. Here at the central (Pamir) theater an explosive device also placed in a truck went off, increasing the number of innocent victims.

Commenting on these and other facts, Major General Nasim Gol, one of the leaders of the campaign against the bandits at the Ministry of State Security, noted that since the implementation of the Geneva agreements the Afghan opposition, with direct support from Pakistan, has stepped up its subversive terrorist activities. Their main aim is to intimidate the population, to increase instability in the country, and to seize completely one of the provinces in the south or southeast in order to establish their own government there. Military advisers from Western and Arab countries as well as Pakistan are directly involved in organizing these operations. As an example of this, Nasim Gol cites Pakistani General Agha, who arrived in the Afghan province of Pakhtia and was directly in charge of the rebel operations. Aslam Beg, another general, this time from the Pakistani Air Force, openly stated recently the readiness of the Air Force to support mujahidin operations.

These are the obvious and proven facts of interference by Pakistan in the internal affairs of the Republic of Afghanistan.

Afghan Army Combats Opposition Groups

LD0909121088 Moscow TASS in English 0901 GMT 9 Sep 88

[Text] Kabul September 9 (TASS)—The BAKHTAR news agency has reported that the Armed Forces of the Republic of Afghanistan conducted operations against armed opposition groups on the territory of three Afghan provinces on Thursday [8 September]. A detachment of the 'Islamic Alliance for the Liberation of Afghanistan' was routed on the outskirts of Konduz (Shur Tappeh District). About twenty oppositionists were killed or wounded during the combat action. Units of Afghan troops with active support of the local population delivered a strike on a group that had rocketed the city of Qandahar. At the least 70 enemy fighters were put out of action.

Security bodies routed a band of robbers operating on the Kabul-Mazar-C-Sharif Road.

50 'Extremists' Killed

LD1009192488 Moscow TASS in English 1905 GMT 10 Sep 88

[Text] Kabul September 10 TASS—Over the past twenty four hours extremists lost 50 men killed and 15 wounded as a result of an operation being conducted by government troops in Paghman District of Kabul Province.

Started several days ago the operation is being carried out with a view to putting a stop to sabotage and terrorist activities of groups that rocket the Afghan capital.

During fighting on Friday a large amount of heavy weapons belonging to the enemy, including grenade launchers, large-calibre machine-guns, and surface-to-surface missile launchers, was destroyed.

Units of the Afghan Army and security forces also carried out successful operations against insurgents near the cities of Gardeyz and Konduz, putting out of action up to 30 extremists.

A jirgah of chiefs and elders of the Pashtun tribe of Mangal and residents of a number of populated areas of Seyyed Karam District of Paktia Province took place in Gardeyz. Those present pointed out the need for joint action in the name of stopping the bloodshed, condemned the extremists' criminal actions against civilian population, and took a decision on armed support for the national reconciliation policy.

Group Routed in Shindand

LD1109192288 Moscow TASS in English 1854 GMT 11 Sep 88

[Text] Kabul September 11 TASS—Another 389 Afghan refugees have returned to the homeland from Iran via the Islamkala border station, using the right granted by the national reconciliation policy. The necessary aid was given to the repatariates as well as transport facilities to take them to the native province of Nimruz, BAKHTAR news agency reports.

Units of the Afghan Armed Forces continue to conduct operations to crush the rebels. A group of extremists was routed in Shindand village as a result of combat operations in which 25 people were killed and 37 injured. Eight units of fire arms, ten ground-to-ground missiles, 60 hand grenades, explosives and recoiless guns were sized.

One more armed formation of the "irreconcilables" was smashed in Konduz Province.

Security forces aborted a crime which was under preparation by detecting seven kilograms of explosives near Maywanda, a central street of the Afghan capital.

A tense situation persists on the Puli-Humri-Salang-Kabul pass road. Instances of attacks on state and personal transport became more frequent there. The same takes place on the road linking the Afghan capital with Jalalabad, the adminstrative center of Nangarhar Province. Rebels fire at columns and mine individual sections of the road. A regular passenger bus has struck a mine recently, as a result of which several passengers were injured.

The bombardment of Qandahar is continued. Rebels control a section of the Qandahar-Sanjrai road by which prime necessaries are delivered to the city.

The cities of Kabul, Ghazni, Herat, Lashkargah, Asadabad and other settlements came under heavy gun fire which killed 19 civilians and injured 38.

Rebels blew off power transmission line supporting structures in the area of the Sorubi hydroelectric power station and the Bazar-e Payan village in Kabul Province.

Pakistan keeps violating the Geneva agreements. This is manifest, above all, in the penetration of the "caravans of terror" into Afghan territory. Shipments of weapons and ammunition have been delivered to Angishti-Shah cave, 112 kilometers south-east of Sheberghan in Faryab Province, to the area of Hajigan, 79 kilometers south-west of Kabul, to Nazian, Achin and Chakarhar Districts in Nangarhar Province, and also to several areas of Konduz Province and Khowst District in recent days. The weapons were smuggled mostly by armed bandits from the "Islamic Society of Afghanistan" and the "Islamic Alliance for the Liberation of Afghanistan" groups.

Cooperation With Afghanistan on Power Engineering

LD1109205688 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1800 GMT 11 Sep 88

[Excerpts] Aleksandr Shkirando, our Kabul correspondent, describes Soviet-Afghan cooperation in the field of power engineering:

[Shkirando] It can be said without a doubt that Soviet-Afghan cooperation in this field yields good results. [passage omitted] Recently cooperation between the USSR and Afghanistan has been developing under complex conditions. After all, the thoughtless and bloody war is continuing throughout most of Afghanistan's territory. As a result, what had taken years to build, for the sake of the Afghan people's prosperity, is, not infrequently, destroyed. The so-called mujahidin are striving to create an atmosphere of chaos and doubt over the stability of the current regime and, to give an example, blow up electric power transmission lines that are lifelines for the country's towns and villages. As a result of such acts of subversion, a serious shortage of electric power has recently been felt in the capital itself, too.

All the same, notwithstanding the situation, the Afghan power engineering workers, aided by the Soviet specialists and showing real courage and heroism, not only restore damaged facilities but also build new ones. Thus recently an electric power transmission line between Mazar-e Sharif and Jarqodok, 142 km long and boasting a substation in Jarqodok, has been handed over for use. The commissioning of the line and the substation will make it possible to provide electric power to the developing gas and oil industries of Afghanistan, to eliminate a shortage of electric power in the town of Sheberghan and to organize the electrification of a whole number of populated settlements.

During duty tours to various provinces of the country, I have seen many times the self-defense detachments from some small town or village protecting these facilities. Electricity and water are a source of life for the local people. More broadly, the commissioning of power engineering facilities represents an important contribution the USSR makes toward the development of Afghanistan's industry and agriculture and to the cause of strengthening friendship and cooperation between our countries.

Afghan Official Praises Joint Space Flight

LD1009134988 Moscow TASS in English 1335 GMT 10 Sep 88

[Text] Kabul September 10 TASS—TASS corespondent Igor Shishkov reports:

"The results of the scientific experiments carried out during the Soviet-Afghan space flight will enable our country to develop new mineral wealth deposits and determine more precisely the reerves of water sources," Farid Mazdak, alternate member of the Politburo of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan Central Committee and first secretary of the Central Committee of the Democratic Organisation of the Afghan Youth, told TASS.

He said the results of the experiments would be of invaluable importance for Afghanistan's economic, scientific and technological development.

Mazdak noted that the first flight of an Afghan citizen into space would, undoubtedly, boost Afghanistan's international image and would make for stabilizing the political situation inside the country.

At the end of the joint Soviet-Afghan flight, the Peasant Justice Party of Afghanistan issued a statement which emphasized that the flight was of great political, economic and scientific importance for Afghanistan.

Soviet-Indian Political Consultations Detailed

LD1009051188 Moscow TASS in English 2119 GMT 9 Sep 88

[Text] Moscow September 10 TASS—K. Natwar Singh, Indian minister of state for external affairs, has ended today his brief working visit to the Soviet Union.

In the course of the visit Natwar Singh was received by Anatoliy Dobrynin, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee. Views were exchanged on questions pertaining to a further development of Soviet-Indian cooperation and topical international issues. The meeting proceeded in an atmosphere of friendship and mutual understanding.

Soviet-Indian political consultations were held at the USSR Foreign Ministry on September 8-9. They were attended from the Soviet side by Yuliy Vorontsov, USSR first deputy foreign minister, USSR Deputy Foreign Ministers Vladimir Petrovskiy and Igor Rogachev; from the Indian side by K. Natwar Singh, India's minister of state for external affairs, and Prem K.Budhwar, India's charge d'affaires to the USSR.

The sides discussed in detail key international issues and questions pertaining to Soviet-Indian cooperation.

The sides pointed out to with gratification that the ideas of building a nuclear-weapon-free and non-violent world mirrored in Mikhail Gorbachev's and Rajiv Gandhi's Delhi declaration meet with a growing response in the international community. The non-confrontational approach in communication between states, an intensive search for points of contact in the positions, on mutually acceptable solutions help towards settling even the knottiest problems and conflict situations. This has been manifested first and foremost in the signing and ratification of the Soviet-American INF Treaty, which marked the start of real nuclear disarmament and in the attainment of the Geneva accords on Afghanistan. The Iran-Iraq war has been stopped. Progress has manifest itself in the settlement of the Kampuchean issue. Chances have appeared for resolving such a protracted conflict as that in southern Africa.

The Soviet side pointed out the great role which is to be played by right in the attainment of the current positive changes in the international arena by the Non-Aligned Movement, a major independent factor of world politics actively participating in the resolution of general problems of the whole humanity.

In discussing disarmament issues a considerable consonance was noted between the Soviet program of stage-by-stage elimination of nuclear and other mass destruction weapons by the year of 2000 and the Indian plan for actions for building a nuclear-weapon-free and non-violent world. In the opinion of the sides it opens up fresh opportunities for the interaction of the Soviet Union and India for the benefit of peace, for building an all-embracing international peace and security system.

In examining the Afghan issue it was stressed that the interests of the Soviet Union and India are totally concurrent on the issue that Afghanistan shall be an independent, neutral and non-aligned stable state maintaining good relations with all of its neighbours. The participants in the consultations expressed confidence that the most important objective of Afghan settlement is unconditional and full observance of their commitments by all the four parties to the Geneva accords: Pakistan, the USA, Afghanistan, and the Soviet Union.

Considerable attention was devoted to the exchange of views on problems of Kampuchean settlement. It was stressed that the Soviet Union and India actively support a further discussion of that problem between the Kampuchean sides as well as at the regional and international levels.

The sides reaffirmed the mutual wish to implement all the accords reached at the latest meetings between Soviet and Indian leaders.

The consultations proceeded in an atmosphere of friendship and full mutual understanding.

Kuwaiti Military Official Concludes Visit

PM0809130388 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 6 Sep 88 First Edition p 3

[Unattributed report: "Departure for Home"]

[Text] Major General Mazyad al-Sani', chief of the Kuwaiti Armed Forces General Staff, who is on an official visit to the Soviet Union at the invitation of

Marshal of the Soviet Union S.F. Akhromeyev, chief of the USSR Armed Forces General Staff and USSR first deputy defense minister, has been visiting Tashkent.

The Kuwaiti guest called on Army General N. Popov, commander of the Turkestan Military District.

Maj Gen M. al-Sani' toured Tashkent, visited Samarkand, and saw the city's sights and historic monuments.

Army Gen N. Popov gave a dinner in the guest's honor.

Maj Gen M. al-Sani' left for home 4 September.

Iranian Foreign Minister Cited on UN Talks
LD0909225388 Moscow TASS in English 2223 GMT 9 Sep 88

[Text] Geneva September 10 TASS—Iran's Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati told a press conference held here that he was prepared to carry on talks on a settlement of the conflict between Iraq and Iran. I, he said, am prepared to stay in Geneva for any time that will be stipulated by U.N. secretary general or by his personal envoy at the talks, despite the prelimitary [as received] strings attached by Iraq. At the same time Velayati did not exclude that the Iranian-Iraqi talks would possibly by put off so that their new round be started in two-three weeks in New York, during the U.N. General Assembly session.

Political observers watching the course of the talks note that Iraq and Iraq have not made any progress in the course of the fourteen day contacts on the settlement of the conflict. Yet neither of the sides wishes to demonstrate its dissatisfaction and withdraw from Geneva.

Kurdish Refugees Flee Iraqi Attacks
OW1109084088 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1055 GMT 8 Sep 88

[From the "World Today" program, presented by Valentin Dvinin]

[Text] This tent camp is one of four that has appeared in recent days around the city of Diyarbakir in southeast Turkey near the border with Iraq. They will become a temporary, or most likely a long-term, refuge for 120,000 Iraqi Kurds who have been forced to leave their country.

After the conclusion of military activities on the Iranian front, at the end of August Iraq undertook major military operations in the northern part of the country against the Kurdish tribes there who have been waging a struggle against the central Baghdad authorities for a long time.

The Kurds are an ancient people and the majority of them, up to 10 million, live in Turkey. From 2 to 4 million live in Iran, while some 2 to 3 million live in Iraq. As far back as after World War I, in accordance with the so-called Treaty of Sevres signed by the Entente powers and the former Ottoman Empire, the Kurds were promised autonomy. However, to their sorrow their lands were found to be rich in oil, and when London received the League of Nations mandate to administer Iraq, the British colonialists did everything to deny the Kurds their autonomy. So the foundation for the present conflict was laid at the beginning of the twenties.

Citing the testimony of refugees in Turkey, foreign press agencies report that during the latest operations against the Kurdish tribes, Iraqi troops have even used poisonous chemical substances. Baghdad denies this. At the same time the Revolutionary Command Council of Iraq has announced an amnesty for the Kurdish rebels and established a 30-day period for the refugees' return. Most of them, however, have no intention of returning to Iraq for fear of reprisals. This was learned both from ordinary Kurds and their leaders by journalists who visited the tent camp near Diyarbakir.

Moscow Meeting Marks Jubilee of Ties With Egypt
PM0909131988 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 9 Sep 88 Second Edition p 7

[TASS report under the general heading "Official Reports"]

[Text] August 1943 was the starting point for Soviet-Egyptian relations. It was a time when the stones of Stalingrad and the sands of El Alamein had not yet cooled down from the flames of victorious battles against German fascism. This was stated 8 September at a public meeting in Moscow devoted to the 45th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between the USSR and Egypt.

Noticeable positive moves are now taking place in Soviet-Egyptian relations, the speakers stressed. The USSR and Egypt are now striving to further develop them and to strengthen mutual understanding and cooperation in various spheres.

Sub-Saharan Africa

Ethiopia's Struggle Against Separatism Noted
PM0909101188 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 6 Sep 88 Second Edition p 4

["First Dispatch" by own correspondent Sergey Demidov: "Light and Shade of the Ethiopian Tableland. PRAVDA Own Correspondent Sergey Demidov Has Begun Work in Addis Ababa"]

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] The Republic has many tasks to tackle in a complex situation, one of whose features is the exacerbation of the situation in the north of the country, where separatist groupings operate. In Addis Ababa posters with the slogan "All for the Front!" and buses and 3-ton trucks transporting young draftees through the streets remind you of this fact. The Red Sea port of Aseb is now living according to wartime laws: At

the city limit our all-terrain vehicle was carefully inspected at a checkpoint. Around the city, above the rocky natural features, the eye notices tank turrets and the silhouettes of armored personnel carriers. The situation is tense in the Eritrean provincial center of Asmera and in Tigre Province, where the so-called Eritrean People's Liberation Front [EPLF] and Tigre People's Liberation Front [TPLF] operate, respectively.

A new flareup of military activity by both groupings occurred last September, when the creation of the People's Democratic Republic of Ethiopia [PDRE] was proclaimed. Under the new Ethiopian Constitution the provinces of Eritrea and Tigre were granted regional autonomy. A reorganization of the state-administrative system was undertaken with a view to broadening the democratic self-management of the working masses and ensuring that the numerous ethnic groups that inhabit the country get additional guarantees of their rights to equality and social democratic development. But the EPLF and the TPLF did not recognize those changes and abided by their extreme positions. In the spring of this year, coordinating their actions, they managed to capture a number of cities in Eritrea and Tigre. A group of EPLF saboteurs reached Sanahbor Island—a rock which rises from the Red Sea's waves just off the coast itself—and fired rockets on Aseb from there. Their target was an oil refinery which supplies Ethiopia with fuel and other by-products. Only by chance was there no significant damage. Fighters of the separatist forces penetrated Asmera not so long ago and laid mines in various parts of the city.

People are dying in the flames being fanned by the EPLF, and material assets and resources, which are already in acutely short supply in Ethiopia, are being destroyed. During the period from last September through February alone the damage caused by those actions totaled approximately 14 million birrs (more than $6.5 million). Whereas prior to the overthrow of the imperial regime Eritrean separatism came out from antimonarchist positions, after the revolution of 12 September 1974 its activity began to undermine the Ethiopian people's democratic gains, posing a threat to Ethiopia's unity and integrity and provoking foreign interference in its internal affairs. This is manifested in support for the separatists from certain Near East regimes which supply them with weapons and fill their coffers. The EPLF also has ties with the West.

A plenum of the Workers Party of Ethiopia [WPE] Central Committee was held in March and urged the people to deal the separatists a rebuff. General mobilization was announced, the Republic State Council introduced a state of emergency in the northern provinces, and a defense council was set up under the PDRE Government. As a result of the measures taken, the 3d Revolutionary Army switched to the offensive at the end of May. In Tigre it cleared the separatists from almost all the province's cities which they held. In Eritrea, however, the situation remains serious.

While mobilizing forces to fight the separatists, the PDRE Government is trying to find a political solution to the problem of separatism. The country's central authorities have repeatedly stated their readiness to sit down at the negotiating table with the separatist leaders. Nine times, said Mengistu Haile Mariam, general secretary of the WPE Central Committee and the country's president, at a recent news conference for foreign journalists, we have proposed meeting with the separatists to discuss their demands openly with them. But, as reality shows, the EPLF and TPLF splittists are continuing their hostile provocative actions.

The appeal "All for the Front!" should not be freely interpreted as though everyone capable of holding a weapon must be sent to the Eritrean and Tigre front, the Ethiopian leader said. The people in Ethiopia have other fronts, too. "All for the Front!" means that every member of society is obliged to fight on the front of the struggle against poverty and on the front of the struggle against hunger and disease. [passage omitted]

Report on Ethiopia's Problems, Bureaucratization
LD1109182388 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1430 GMT 11 Sep 88

[From the "Vremya" newscast; A. Kraminov report from Addis Ababa]

[Excerpts] On 12 September the People's Democratic Republic of Ethiopia is festively celebrating its national holiday, Revolution Day. [passage omitted]

[Kraminov] There are very serious problems which it has not yet proved possible to solve. The country, in which nearly 9 out of 10 inhabitants are peasants, is still unable to provide itself with food. Industry is not developing dynamically enough. The budget deficit is large and is continuing to grow, as is the foreign debt. Certainly, these difficulties are partly to be explained by objective causes: the serious drought from which large territories in the country are currently suffering, as well as the battles with large military units of the enemies of the current regime which have flared up again in the north of Ethiopia and have become extensive in scale. But it is also evident that the new authorities have not yet succeeded in creating an effectively functioning economic mechanism. In my view, the Ethiopian revolutionaries are also underestimating the danger of the tendency, which has become clearly manifest, toward centralization and bureaucratization. The revolutionary country still has much to do in order to achieve the aim it has set itself.

East Europe

Soviet Envoy on Dubcek as Perestrokya 'Precursor'
LD1109163688 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1519 GMT 11 Sep 88

["Dubcek—'Forerunner of Perestroyka'"—TANJUG headline]

[Text] Rome, September 11 (TANJUG)—Soviet Ambassador to Italy Nikolay Lunkov has stated that the former

"Prague Spring" leader, Alexander Dubcek, was expelled from the party in 1969 for being "a forerunner of perestroyka", which he said was a fact that could not be denied.

Lunkov made the statement at the festival of the daily UNITA in Florence yesterday, taking part in a political debate as a guest. Only a month earlier, on the anniversary of the Warsaw Pact intervention in Czechoslovakia, Moscow had officially qualified the intervention as justified.

"Perestroyka had many precursors and it did not happen all at once", Soviet Ambassador Lunkov said. He, however, specified that the question of Dubcek's rehabilitation was "an internal affair of Czechoslovakia". "The perestroyka process is making a headway also in other socialist countries, including in Czechoslovakia. The Czechoslovak leaders, themselves, need to draw a conclusion from that", the Soviet ambasador said.

Lunkov stated that the several time put off visit to Italy of Soviet party leader Mikhail Gorbachev was to take place shortly and the pope's visit to the Soviet Union has not yet been discussed officially.

Zagladin Meets MSZMP Leaders in Moscow

PM0909142588 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian
9 Sep 88 Second Edition p 7

[TASS report under the general heading "Official Reports"]

[Text] Budapest, 8 Sep—V.V. Zagladin, member of the CPSU Central Committee and first deputy chief of the CPSU Central Committee International Department, who is here at the invitation of the MSZMP Central Committee, has been received by J. Kadar, chairman of the MSZMP; J. Berecz, member of the MSZMP Central Committee Politburo and secretary of the MSZMP Central Committee; M. Szuros, secretary of the MSZMP Central Committee; and G. Horn, secretary of state at the Hungarian Foreign Ministry.

The consultations that were held were devoted to questions of mutual interest pertaining to present-day European and international politics.

PRAVDA Reports MSZMP Politburo Session

PM0909115088 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian
8 Sep 88 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Central Committee Politburo Decisions"]

[Text] Budapest, 7 Sep—A report has been published here on the MSZMP Central Committee Politburo session held 6 September, which examined questions connected with improving ideological work. The MSZMP Central Committee Politburo is to discuss and submit for consideration by the MSZMP Central Committee materials that will touch on the ideological aspects of the mechanism of operation and management of the socialist economy and political and state relations.

The MSZMP Central Committee Politburo discussed tasks in improving political work with young people. It was stressed that the main aim of the party's youth policy is to involve young people in social processes, offer them scope for action, and strengthen its influence among the young generation.

The MSZMP Central Committee Politburo heard a report by MSZMP General Secretary K. Grosz on the Hungarian-Romanian meeting in Arad and examined a joint document of the MSZMP Central Committee International Department and the Hungarian Foreign Ministry on Hungarian-Romanian relations. It was decided to undertake foreign policy efforts to eliminate tension in these relations and to adopt measures with a view to ensuring the speediest implementation of the proposals that were agreed in principle at the Arad meeting.

Polish Unions Censure Government Over Economy

PM0909151588 Moscow TRUD in Russian
8 Sep 88 p 3

[TASS report: "Problems Relating to Prices and Incomes"]

[Text] Warsaw, 7 Sep—A session of the All-Polish Trade Union Alliance (OPZZ) Council has appraised the current socioeconomic situation in Poland as reflected in the results of the first 6 months of the year. PAP reports that taking part in the session were representatives of the country's key industrial enterprises and Sejm deputies representing trade unions.

W. Martyniuk, deputy chairman of the OPZZ, who addressed the session, delivered a critical appraisal of the government policy in the sphere of prices and incomes. On behalf of the OPZZ leadership he expressed himself in favor of adopting, without delay, specific measures to normalize the economy, and in particular of elaborating an operational plan to ensure the stabilization of the national economy for 1989-90 aimed at curbing inflation and implementing structural changes and a reorientation of capital investments toward developing the production of goods needed by the population.

Speaking on behalf of the government, Z. Szalajda, deputy chairman of the Polish Council of Ministers, admitted that the changes implemented in the prices and incomes structure have failed to yield the expected results. The government, he said, is now focusing its attention on measures to increase goods deliveries to the market, slow down price increases, and bring the population's purchasing power into line with the actual possibilities of the economy. The speaker said that the government needs the trade unions' help and support for its work.

The session participants adopted a resolution on the implementation of the economic reform and the prices and incomes policy which reiterates the critical assessments made by the trade unions earlier and expresses a lack of confidence in the government in the expectation that it will resign. The OPZZ Council asked the Sejm deputies to take steps to this effect in the country's parliament.

On the question of trade union pluralism the resolution emphasizes that the trade unions can and must resolve the question of their future independently. Anyone who is not indifferent to the problems affecting trade unions and the defense of the working people's rights, the document notes, can become a trade union member. Therefore there is no need to sanction the existence of a second trade union at enterprises. The OPZZ Council expressed support for the idea of holding "roundtable" discussions and declared its readiness to play an active part in them.

PZPR Politburo Session Report Cited

PM0909112588 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 9 Sep 88 First Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Poland: PZPR's Unity is Essential"]

[Text] Warsaw, 8 Sep—The galvanization of the activity of the organs of power of all levels with a view to normalizing the situation in the country, ensuring the progress of national concord, and accelerating the pace of the implementation of reforms in the economy—that is the demand of the time, says a report on a routine session of the PZPR Central Committee Politburo. The report on its work points to the need to galvanize the activity of the party and state commission for reviewing the organizational structures of the state and the economy and contains specific measures to implement the decisions of the PZPR Central Committee Plenum.

The Politburo voiced support for the trade unions' proposals to examine and implement initiatives which enrich the model of the trade union movement in Poland and go to meet working people's expectations but at the same time do not lead to a split or the introduction of political struggle to enterprises. It expressed itself in favor of the consolidation of the trade unions' role as the defenders of the working people's interests and the expansion of the guarantee of their partnership relations with the administration.

Analyzing the situation in the country, the Politburo expressed gratitude to all those who have promoted a settlement of the conflicts and the limitation of the dimensions of the illegal strikes. It addressed words of respect to the overwhelming majority of working people who continued to work, with a sense of responsibility, counter to the intentions of the organizers of the illegal strikes. The Politburo pointed to the substantial social and economic damage caused by the strikers.

The Politburo noted that some party organizations have lost their dynamism, the strength and integrity of their reasoning, and close contact with nonparty people and are not always capable of dealing a resolute rebuff to positions and views alien to socialism. The party cannot for a minute slacken the rhythm of work or its assertiveness in dialogue with society. The effective building of the process of national concord requires the animation of ideological life in the party and the consolidation of the political unity of its ranks. The special importance of party work among the working class was noted.

The ending of strikes, the Politburo continued, has created conditions for the calm essential for a "roundtable" meeting of the broadest range of representatives of the public forces standing on the ground of constitutional order and aiming to improve relations in Poland.

Bulgaria's National Day Recognized 7 Sep

Belousov Attends Ceremony

PM0909114688 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 8 Sep 88 Second Edition p 5

[TASS report: "In Honor of Our Friends' Holiday: Ceremonial Meeting of Moscow Working People"]

[Text] A ceremonial meeting of representatives of Moscow's working people was held on 7 September to mark Freedom Day—Bulgaria's national holiday.

The keynote speaker, V.N. Bazovskiy, first deputy chairman of the Central Board of the Soviet-Bulgarian Friendship Society, and the speakers said that Soviet people join the Bulgarian people in marking the 44th anniversary of the socialist revolution in Bulgaria. The victory of the revolution was the logical result of many years of staunch struggle by Bulgarian working people against exploitation and social oppression. They express confidence that the further development and deepening of fraternal friendship and all-around cooperation beween the USSR and Bulgaria and their enrichment with new forms and content accord fully with our peoples' interests and serve the cause of peace, progress, and socialism.

G. Pankov, Bulgarian ambassador to the USSR, described the tasks his motherland's people are now tackling under the leadership of their glorious vanguard—the BCP. We attribute Bulgaria's universally recognized successes in socialist building, he said, to the creative application of the experience of the CPSU and the Soviet people, our two parties' course of all-around cooperation and rapprochement between the two countries, and the crystal pure friendship of our peoples.

G.S. Tarazevich, deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, I.S. Belousov, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, leaders of a number of ministries and departments, and representatives of party, soviet, and public organizations took part in the meeting.

A delegation from the All-National Committee of Bulgarian-Soviet Friendship, headed by K. Gabrovski, was present.

Yazov Sends Greetings

PM0909131788 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 9 Sep 88 Second Edition p 1

[USSR Defense Minister Yazov greetings message to Bulgarian defense minister on revolution anniversary]

[Text] To Comrade Army General Dobri Dzhurov, minister of national defense of the People's Republic of Bulgaria

Esteemed Comrade Minister!

On the 44th anniversary of the socialist revolution in Bulgaria, personally and on behalf of USSR Armed Forces personnel, I send you and all Bulgarian People's Army servicemen fraternal combat greetings and cordial congratulations.

The socialist gains of the People's Republic of Bulgaria convincingly confirm the correctness of the historic choice which the Bulgarian people made during September 1944. We note with satisfaction that Soviet-Bulgarian relations, founded on the principles of Marxism-Leninism and socialist internationalism, reliably serve the interests of the peoples of the USSR and Bulgaria and the cause of peace and socialism.

On Bulgaria's national holiday I wish Bulgarian People's Army personnel new successes in fulfilling the 13th BCP Congress decisions on enhancing socialist Bulgaria's defense capability and further developing and strengthening friendship and cooperation between the armies of our countries and of all the Warsaw Pact states.

With communist greetings,

Army General D. Yazov, USSR minister of defense.

CPSU Sends Greetings

PM1209091988 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 9 Sep 88 Second Edition p 1

[Undated CPSU Central Committee, USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, and USSR Council of Ministers National Day message to Bulgarian leaders]

[Text] To Comrade Todor Zhivkov, general secretary of the BCP Central Committee and chairman of the Bulgarian State Council

To Comrade Georgiy Atanasov, chairman of the Bulgarian Council of Ministers

Dear Comrades!

The CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, the USSR Council of Ministers, and the entire Soviet people send you, the BCP Central Committee, the Bulgarian State Council and Council of Ministers, and the fraternal Bulgarian people cordial congratulations and good wishes on Bulgaria's national holiday—the 44th anniversary of the socialist revolution.

Communists and all Soviet people are following the Bulgarian people's efforts to renew society with sincere sympathy and profound interest. The decisions of the 27th CPSU Congress, the 13th BCP Congress, and our party conferences open up new prospects for all-around Soviet-Bulgarian cooperation and the fuller utilization of the experience accumulated by our countries.

Now that it is so important to make beneficial processes in the international arena irreversible, constructive steps aimed at real disarmament, the democratization of international life, and the development of peaceful cooperation among states for the good of all peoples are particularly necessary. The Bulgarian initiatives in organizing regional and all-European cooperation and Bulgaria's efforts to rid the Balkans of nuclear and chemical weapons constitute such steps and form an organic part of the fraternal socialist countries' active line of curbing the arms race, radically improving the situation in Europe, and creating a safer and more stable world.

We are fully determined to continue strengthening CPSU-BCP unity, whose roots lie in the history of fraternal Soviet-Bulgarian friendship.

We wholeheartedly wish Bulgaria's Communists and all its working people new achievements in socialist creation.

The CPSU Central Committee; the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium; the USSR Council of Ministers

Soviet Leadership Sends Messages to East Europe

Condolences to SFRY on Accident

PM0909134588 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 8 Sep 88 Morning Edition p 1

[TASS report: "Sincere Condolences"]

[Text] The USSR Council of Ministers has sent a telegram to B. Mikulic, president of the SFRY Federal Executive Council, conveying deep and sincere condolences in connection with the serious traffic accident involving casualties in the region of the Mostar. The telegram expressed sympathy for the relatives and friends of the dead and injured.

CPSU Tribute to SED's Felfe

PM1209080788 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 9 Sep 88 Second Edition p 1

[Undated CPSU Central Committee condolence message "To the SED Central Committee"]

[Text] The CPSU Central Committee expresses its profound condolences in connection with the untimely death of Comrade Werner Felfe, the eminent GDR party and state figure.

Werner Felfe's entire life was devoted to the struggle for the triumph of Marxist-Leninist ideas in the land of the first-ever German workers and peasants state. An ardent patriot of his motherland, an internationalist, and a Leninist, he actively promoted the development and deepening of the bonds of fraternal friendship and all-around cooperation between the SED and the CPSU and between the GDR and the Soviet Union.

The bright memory of Comrade Werner Felfe will always remain in our hearts.

The CPSU Central Committee

West Europe

Shevardnadze Meets Austria's Mock on Arrival

LD1109131288 Moscow TASS in English 1307 GMT 11 Sep 88

[Text] Moscow September 11 TASS—Alois Mock, vice-chancellor and minister of foreign affairs of the Austrian Republic, arrived in Moscow today for an official visit at the invitation of the Soviet Government.

He was met at the airport by Eduard Shevardnadze, member of the Politbureau of the CPSU Central Committee and minister of foreign affairs of the USSR, as well as other officials.

Finnish Prime Minister Arrives in Moscow

LD1209061388 Moscow TASS in English 0604 GMT 12 Sep 88

[Text] Moscow September 12 TASS—Finnish Prime Minister Harri Holkeri arrived in Moscow today on an unofficial visit.

At the Leningrad railway station he was met by Nikolay Ryzhkov, member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, Vladimir Kamentsev, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers and other officials.

Meets With Ryzhkov

LD1209101788 Helsinki Domestic Service in Finnish 0930 GMT 12 Sep 88

[Text] Prime Minister Harri Holkeri started his first visit to Moscow today. The prime minister and Mrs Liisa Holkeri were received at the railway station by head of government Nikolay Ryzhkov; Vladimir Kamentsev, deputy head of government; and Nikolay Konarev, chairman of the Soviet-Finnish society.

This morning Holkeri met with head of government Ryzhkov in the Kremlin. Ryzhkov also gave a luncheon for the guests. In his luncheon speech, Premier Holkeri said that the visit is an important part of the traditional relations between the leaders of Finland and the Soviet Union. He also pointed out that the current Finnish Government follows a foreign policy line based on the life-long work of Paasiivi and Kekkonen. President Koivisto also consistently follows this line.

Holkeri proposed that Finland and the Soviet Union establish a joint plan to promote the Kola project. Prime Minister Holkeri noted that Finland is prepared to start multilateral cooperation on the Kola Peninsula according to the proposals made by General Secretary Mikhail Gorbachev.

Soviet-Finnish Commission Concludes Agreements

LD1009044388 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1610 GMT 9 Sep 88

[Text] Helsinki, 9 Sep TASS—TASS correspondent Vladimir Semenov reports:

The signing here today of a number of documents aimed at expanding trade and economic relations between the USSR and Finland concluded the latest working meeting between the cochairman of the Soviet-Finnish Intergovernmental Standing Commission on Economic Cooperation. The Soviet delegation at the negotiations was headed by V.M. Kamentsev, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers and chairman of the Soviet side of the commission; while the Finnish side was led by K. Sorsa, deputy prime minister of Finland, minister of foreign affairs, and chairman of the Finnish side of the commission.

The sides emphasized the usefulness of such meetings, which have become a good tradition for resolving current issues of trade between the two countries and for defining the prospects for its development.

As a result of the negotiations, accords were reached in accordance with which important documents were signed on credits and the procedure for future accounting between the two countries. An agreement was also signed on supplying electrical power from the Soviet Union.

One of the working groups was commissioned to carry out a preliminary review of the basic directions of the next 5-year agreement on commodity exchange and payments in 1991-1995.

The last few years have not been wholly favorable for cooperation between the USSR and Finland, as a result of the sharp fall in oil prices. However, in this situation the stability of the partnership between the two countries was demonstrated. This made it possible not only to avoid a decline in economic ties, but last year even to secure a 20-percent increase in the actual volume of Soviet exports to Finland over the 1986 level.

The two states are now faced with the task of continuing work to seek fresh opportunities to increase goods turnover, to develop coproduction and joint cooperation in markets of third countries, and to set up joint enterprises. Since the decisions on the procedure for setting up joint enterprises were published in the USSR, 12 enterprises have already been set up with the participation of Finnish firms. Talks are under way on 70 more projects.

During the meeting there was also discussion of matters relating to exploiting minerals on the Kola Peninsula, building power engineering and ferrous metallurgy enterprises, and expanding the network of gas pipelines laid from the USSR to Finland.

V.M. Kamentsev was received today by President M. Koivisto of Finland. A meeting also took place between the head of the Soviet delegation and H. Holkeri, the country's prime minister. The conversations were conducted in the spirit of goodneighborly relations, mutual understanding, and businesslike cooperation traditional for the two countries.

Expatriate in Finland Deprived of Citizenship

LD1009132888 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1242 GMT 10 Sep 88

[Text] Moscow, 10 Sep (TASS)—The Soviet weekly, ARGUMENTS AND FACTS, under the headline "The KGB of the USSR Informs and Comments" writes today: On the basis of a statement by the Committee for State Security, the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium has deprived Olga Vyakhyasalo of her Soviet citizenship for actions which bring into disrepute the exalted title of citizen of the Soviet Union and which are detrimental to USSR prestige.

The 31-year-old Russian Olga Vyakhyasalo, a former inhabitant of Riga, in 1981 dissolved her marriage to a USSR citizen, took as her second husband a foreigner, officially renounced her parental rights over her 4-year-old daughter, and left to take up permanent residence with her new husband in Finland. Before her departure she led a parasitic way of life and engaged in prostitution and foreign currency speculation deals, the report says.

When she arrived in Finland, Vyakhyasalo established close contacts with foreign neo-Nazi and anti-Soviet emigre organizations including the notorious "Peoples Labor Union" and became actively involved in their subversive activity against the USSR. Making use of foreigners visiting the USSR and international and internal Soviet postal channels, she carried out hostile ideological campaigning among inhabitants of the Latvian SSR whom she knew, systematically sending to their address anti-Soviet propaganda material and trying to persuade them to leave for abroad. Moreover, she undertook persistent attempts to involve some of her acquaintances in the USSR in collecting military, political, and slanderous information and attempted, for ignoble purposes, to establish contact with people previously found guilty of spying and other crimes. In order to organize the clandestine sending to the West of materials of interest to her, Vyakhyasalo gave some Soviet citizens false addresses of the "Peoples Labor Union," "Amnesty International," and other such organizations.

In order to localize Vyakhyasalo's hostile subversive activity, as well as being deprived of Soviet citizenship, she has been banned from entering the USSR for 3 years.

Admiral Denies Submarines in Swedish Waters

LD0909131688 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1217 GMT 9 Sep 88

[Text] Tallinn, 9 Sep (TASS)—The Baltic Fleet has no small or mini-submarines like those periodically reported in the Swedish press as having intruded into Swedish territorial waters, said Admiral Vitaliy Ivanov, commander of the Baltic Fleet, at a press conference here. "There are even reports alleging that Soviet submarines on crawler tracks are infiltrating the skerries and surveying Swedish territory", he said. "As a submarine specialist, I can assure you that the USSR has no submarines on crawler tracks."

The Soviet admiral stated that in 1980, there actually was an incident involving the entry of a Soviet submarine into Sweden's territorial waters. However, this was not done deliberately and was not aimed at conducting intelligence-gathering operations. It was due to the failure of navigational equipment, which led to an error in determining the submarine's position.

"I can state categorically that since then, not a single Soviet submarine has approached closer than within 50-70 km of Swedish territory," said the Baltic Fleet commander. "We have restricted the operating zones of submarines and surface ships. For several years now, the Soviet Union has not conducted naval exercises in the North Sea. Maneuvers are held only within the limits of Soviet territorial waters in the eastern and northeastern parts of the Baltic."

In contrast, the NATO countries hold maneuvers in the region east of Bornholm Island, in the direct vicinity of the shores of Poland and the USSR. Military aircraft of

the North Atlantic bloc countries make flights close to Soviet naval bases in the Baltic. U.S. naval vessels carrying nuclear weapons enter the Baltic. They include battleships such as the "Iowa," equipped with Tomahawk cruise missiles which have a range of 2,600 km. All this creates tension in the region and causes legitimate concern on the Soviet side. The USSR proposes that the question of the reduction of naval fleets be discussed at the talks on reduction of armed forces and conventional weapons in Europe, stressed V. Ivanov.

FRG Foreign Ministry Official in Moscow

Meets With Dobrynin

LD0909171888 Moscow TASS in English 1330 GMT 9 Sep 88

[Text] Moscow September 9 TASS—Anatoliy Dobrynin, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, received today Helmut Schaefer, minister of state at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of West Germany.

They exchanged views on a wide range of questions connected with a further development of Soviet-West German relations. The conversation was attended by Andreas Meyer-Landrut, ambassador of West Germany to the USSR.

Received by Kovalev

LD1009111088 Moscow TASS in English 1103 GMT 10 Sep 88

[Text] Moscow September 10 TASS—Anatoliy Kovalev, USSR first deputy foreign minister, received Helmut Schaefer, minister of state at the West German Foreign Ministry, who is staying in Moscow.

The sides discussed some urgent aspects of the contemporary international situation and bilateral relations between the Soviet Union and the Federal Republic of Germany.

Article Derides French Minister's Remarks

PM0909090188 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 4 Sep 88 Morning Edition p 1

[Melor Sturua article: "Chevenement's Formula"]

[Text] What would you say about a philosophy that declares antifascism to be "just as absurd" as fascism, putting on a par inhumaneness and humaneness, anticolonialism and colonialism, and so forth. Of course, you could treat it as a joke and ascribe this philosophy to people who have sprung from antiworlds made of antimatter. However, seriously speaking, such a lack of discernment cannot but evoke active opposition of both a moral and a political nature.

However, does such a philosophy really exist? Are there people who profess it, and what is more, profess it openly? Yes, such a philosophy exists. And yes, there are such people. One of them is Jean-Pierre Chevenement, minister of defense in France' socialist government. Speaking at a political seminar of his party in the city of Sevrier (Haute Savoie) a few days ago, Chevenement called on his audience to "combat antimilitarism, which is just as absurd as militarism."

So according to Chevenement's political ornithology, there is no difference at all between the dove of peace and the hawk of war. Disarmament is just as absurd as the arms race. And a sword equals a plow.

Why did the French minister of defense have to come up with such an absurd philosophy—to use one of his favorite words? Chevenement's formula is a brainchild of the old political thinking, based on the position-of-strength policy and on the strategy of "nuclear deterrence." The Socialists have inherited it from their predecessors, the right-wing Cabinet headed by Jacques Chirac. They have declared their readiness to implement the law on military programs for 1987-1991 adopted by the right. This is also borne out by France' draft state budget for 1989 (Fr218 billion instead of the 212 billion in the current year, amounting to 20 percent of total state expenditure).

By declaring antimilitarism "just as absurd" as militarism, Chevenement betrayed the alarm which is increasingly gripping the West European devotees of nuclear weapons. The Treaty on the Elimination of Intermediate- and Shorter-Range Missiles and improved prospects for a reduction of conventional arms and armed forces in Europe "from the Atlantic to the Urals" are not only disconcerting them, they are also forcing them to show their true face. Until quite recently, gambling on a predictable "no" from Moscow, they stipulated as a condition for the creation of a nuclear-free Europe the elimination of the asymmetries and imbalances in the sphere of conventional arms and armed forces. Now, when the Vienna meeting—as distinct from the Vienna congress which only danced but made no progress—is clearly showing signs of life, when Moscow, instead of the predictable "no," has said a resolute "yes," the Chevenements have shed their mask. They are now saying that nuclear weapons will remain in Europe whatever happens, regardless of any reduction in NATO and Warsaw Pact conventional arms and armed forces.

This is the basis of the appeals to combat antimilitarism! Out of curiosity one would like to ask: Why did Monsieur Chevenement, declaring antimilitarism "just as absurd" as militarism, only call for combating the former? Incidentally, this is idle curiosity since the answer to this question is more than obvious.

Delegation Leaves for Portuguese CP Festival

PM0909132388 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 9 Sep 88 Second Edition p 7

[TASS report under the general heading "Official Reports"]

[Text] A CPSU and PRAVDA delegation headed by B.G. Vladimirov, member of the CPSU Central Auditing Commission and chief editor of EKONOMICHESKAYA GAZETA, left for Lisbon 8 September to participate in the traditional festivities held by the newspaper

AVANTE! at the invitation of the leadership of the Portuguese Communist Party.

Latin America & Caribbean

Brutents, CPSU Delegation Arrive in Argentina

LD0409132388 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1303 GMT 4 Sep 88

[Text] Buenos Aires, 4 Sep (TASS)—A CPSU delegation headed by K.N. Brutents, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee and deputy chief of the CPSU Central Committee International Department, has arrived here at the invitation of the leadership of Argentina's Communist Party. The delegation was met at the capital's international airport by Athos Fava, secretary general of the Communist Party, and by other officials.

Meet Armenian Community

LD0809082988 Moscow TASS in English 1519 GMT 7 Sep 88

[Text] Buenos Aires September 7 TASS—Karen Brutents, alternate member of the CPSU Central Committee, deputy head of the International Department of the CPSU Central Committee, who is currently on a visit here, met with representatives of Argentina's large Armenian community. In the course of the long conversation he briefed the Armenians on the processes of revolutionary perestroyka in the USSR, on how the peoples of the Soviet Union are resolving the tasks of socio-economic development confronting them.

A source of special interest was the story by the Soviet representative on the events in Sumgait and Nagorno-Karabakh, the circumstances which led to them, what is being done today to resolve the problems which accumulated there. Earlier this year Karen Brutents visited Nagorno-Karabakh, therefore his frank story of what happened there met with interest and understanding from the representatives of the Armenian community. In their general view such meetings not only help towards gaining a better idea of the specific issues, but also contribute towards deepening mutual understanding and trust.

Honduran Legislators Visit; Joint Announcement

PM0909110288 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 9 Sep 88 Morning Edition p 4

["Joint Announcement on the Visit to the USSR by a Delegation of the National Congress of the Republic of Honduras"—IZVESTIYA headline]

[Text] A delegation of the National Congress of the Republic of Honduras, headed by Hector Orlando Gomez Cisneros, first vice chairman of the congress, was in the Soviet Union 30 August through 7 September 1988 on an official visit at the invitation of the USSR Supreme Soviet.

The Honduran parliamentarians were received by P.N. Demichev, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium. Meetings and talks took place with A.E. Voss, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Soviet of Nationalities, and members of standing commissions of the USSR Supreme Soviet chambers.

The delegation laid wreaths at the V.I. Lenin Mausoleum and the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier by the Kremlin Wall.

Apart from Moscow, the Honduran guests visited Leningrad and the Estonian SSR. Talks took place with A.F. Ryuytel, chairman of the Estonian SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, and at the Leningrad Gorispolkom and Tallinn Gorispolkom.

The parliamentarians studied the activity of the organs of state power, visited industrial and agricultural enterprises and scientific institutions, and saw monuments of culture and architecture. They gave a news conference for Soviet and foreign journalists.

In the course of the talks, which took place in a business-like and sincere atmosphere, the Soviet and Honduran representatives exchanged information on the activity of the two countries' parliaments and discussed key international problems.

The members of the Honduran delegation were briefed in detail on the work of soviets at various levels and the current restructuring and democratization of all aspects of Soviet society's life.

In the course of the examination of topical international problems in general, the parliamentarians noted the development of positive trends in the modern world, the gradual turn from confrontation to coexistence, and the establishment of the principles of the new political thinking in the world.

The Honduran parliamentarians were briefed on Soviet proposals reflecting a new approach to questions of building a nuclear-free and nonviolent world and creating a comprehensive system of international security. The delegation members particularly stressed the significance of the signing and ratification of the Soviet-American Treaty on the Elimination of Intermediate- and Shorter-Range Missiles, the first step on the path of ridding mankind of nuclear weapons.

The sides were unanimous in the belief that the two countries' parliamentarians face a very important task: to increase their contribution to the cause of saving human civiliation from the threat of nuclear destruction and to promote the stabilization and democratization of

international relations and the development of friendship and cooperation between the peoples of all countries. It was noted that the realities of the modern world demand that war be excluded from the means of regulating conflicts between states.

The parliamentarians noted with satisfaction the growing role of the Latin American countries in the world and their contribution to preserving and strengthening international security and stability.

The persistence and development of conflict situations in various parts of the world is causing serious concern to both sides. They reaffirmed their mutual conviction of the urgent need to resolve them speedily by means of talks on the basis of safeguarding the balance of interests, sovereignty, and respect for national independence and the right to self-determination without outside interference in states' internal affairs.

Examining the situation in Central America, the Soviet and Honduran parliamentarians came out in favor of fulfilling the Guatemala agreement, expressing the conviction that a peaceful and just settlement in that region can only be achieved by the Latin Americans themselves, in particular the Central Americans, on the basis of national reconciliation and consideration for the interests of all the Central American states. The guests spoke of their country's efforts aimed at establishing peace in the region, noting that difficulties in achieving this goal are caused by outside interference in affairs that concern exclusively the Central American countries.

The sides stressed the need to establish a new world economic order on a just, democratic basis. In this connection confidence was expressed that disarmament could free vast additional resources for the resolution of urgent socioeconomic and cultural tasks that face every state, and that the implementation of the "disarmament for development" program will help overcome the economic backwardness of the developing countries.

The USSR Supreme Soviet deputies and Honduran National Congress members noted their mutual commitment to the development and stepping up of Soviet-Honduran ties in various spheres, in trade in particular, and to the establishment of regular parliamentary exchanges. The National Congress delegation conveyed an invitation to the USSR Supreme Soviet to send a delegation to Honduras on an official visit. The invitation was accepted with thanks.

Delegation Departs 8 Sep

LD0809130188 Moscow TASS in English 0954 GMT 8 Sep 88

[Text] Moscow September 8 TASS—The delegation of the National Congress of the Republic of Honduras led by Hector Orlando Gomez Cisneros, vice-president of the congress, left here late last night. The delegation stayed in the Soviet Union on an official visit at the invitation of the USSR Supreme Soviet.

Central Committee Greets Jamaican Party Congress

PM0909102988 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 8 Sep 88 Second Edition p 1

[CPSU Central Committee greetings to Jamaica Labor Party Congress]

[Text] To the Fourth Jamaica Labor Party Congress

Dear Comrades!

The CPSU Central Committee sends ardent greetings to delegates of the Fourth Jamaica Labor Party (JLP) Congress and all Jamaican communists.

The Soviet Union is well aware of Jamaican communists' struggle for the strengthening of Jamaica's political and economic independence, against imperialist diktat, and for the democratization of Jamaican society and the vital interests of the working people, and also of your active role in the movement to turn the Caribbean basin into a zone of peace.

The CPSU and the JLP are linked by strong bonds of comradeship and cooperation based on community of ideals, a desire to creatively develop Marxist-Leninist teaching, and the principles of inviolable international solidarity, full equality, and parties' independence.

At this new stage in the development of the international communist movement, we hope that the decisions made by your congress contribute to the ideological and organizational cohesion of your party, growth in its ranks, and increased influence among the Jamaican working people.

Long live friendship between the CPSU and the JLP and between the Soviet and Jamaican peoples!

CPSU Central Committee

Political & Social

Estonian Central Committee Plenum Begins

LD0909201988 Moscow TASS in English 1945 GMT 9 Sep 88

[Text] Tallinn September 9 TASS—The plenum of the Communist Party of Estonia Central Committee, which opened here today, is discussing the tasks of the republican party organisation in the light of the decisions of the 19th all-union party conference and the plenary meeting of the CPSU Central Committee, which was held soon after it. The Estonian Communist Party plenum is to discuss the placing of that Baltic republic on the self-supporting basis, issues involved in the priority development of agriculture and other questions.

Addressing a report to the plenary meeting, Vayno Vyalyas, first secretary of the Communist Party of Estonia Central Committee, noted that all the key problems of Estonia's economic, social and cultural development can and must be settled in the close-knit family of the sovereign union republics in the course of the revolutionary transformations currently underway in the USSR. He outlined Estonia's topical development objectives.

The report also devoted attention to some questions of Estonia's history and inter-ethnic relations. "Our past requires earnest and honest studies by scholars," Vyalyas said, "but one cannot agree with some light-minded appraisals calling in question the lawfulness of socialism in Estonia. Yet one should also remember that the choice of the socialist path and joining the USSR were the basic demands of the then program of the Estonian Communist Party. The natural popular striving for a more democratic and humane set-up of life naturally led to a radical social change in Estonia."

As the first secretary noted, a comprehension has been started of inter-ethnic relations in the country in the spirit of Lenin's nationalities policy. Not a single major socio-economic measure can be carried out in Estonia, if in this the national ethnic consequences for the Estonians are disregarded.

The plenary meeting will continue in session tomorrow.

Language, Nationalities Viewed

LD1009164288 Moscow TASS in English 1631 GMT 10 Sep 88

[Text] Tallinn September 10 TASS—The plenary meeting of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Estonia (CPE) came to a close today after discussing the tasks of the republic's party organisations to implement the decisions of the 19th all-union party conference and the July (1988) plenary meeting of the CPSU Central Committee.

Speakers emphasized that consistent implementation of the radical economic reform and the ensurance of an optimum combination of all-union and local interests are a major factor in the cardinal transformation of the socio-political situation which has developed in the republic. A transition to republic-wide cost-accounting by the year 1990 is to promote the saturation of the market with consumer goods. The plenary meeting recognized a priority development of agriculture as necessary.

It was pointed out that the restoration of the Leninist principles of the policy of nationalities and their strict observance are essential for a solution to the nationalities question. One should proceed from the premise that Estonia is an integral part of the USSR and that the Estonians are the indigenous population of the republic.

The plenary meeting recognized it advisable to give the Estonian language the status of a state one throughout Estonian territory with the creation of guarantees of equal use of Estonian and Russian languages in all state and public organisations.

'300,000' Estonians Attend Independence Rally

AU1109200988 Paris AFP in English 1959 GMT 11 Sep 88

[Text] Moscow, Sept 9 [date as received] (AFP)—Some 300,000 people gathered for Estonia's biggest ever political rally on Sunday, at which speakers called for independence for the tiny Baltic state, participants told AFP from the Estonian capital Tallinn.

One in three Estonians attended the rally, said economist Tiit Made, contacted by telephone. "The Baltic states have never seen anything like it."

He said the six-hour rally at the Song Festival ground outside Tallinn had taken place in an "amazing, peaceful atmosphere" with Estonian songs to entertain the audience between political speeches.

Estonian Communist Party leader Vayno Vyalyas, who was sitting among the audience, was applauded, but did not address the meeting.

A Central Committee plenum under his chairmanship Friday and Saturday backed nationalist calls for Estonian to become the republic's official language and for Estonian citizenship to be introduced next year, Mr. Made said.

The plenum also reportedly replaced key party officials in charge of Estonia's planning committee, television and radio, agriculture and trade, as the republic prepares to cut all its economic links with Moscow by 1990.

At present 90 per cent of the once-independent state's economy is controlled by central ministries in the Soviet capital.

Speakers at the rally on Sunday included leaders of the Popular Front, an unofficial political movement which claims 50,000 supporters. The Popular Front has actively campaigned on the language issue and in support of economic, political and cultural sovereignty for Estonia—within the Soviet Union.

Prominent Estonian intellectuals, including writers, historians and artists, also addressed the meeting which wound up at about 9:00 p.m as it began to rain.

"I think that all Estonians are together. They know what they want," Mr. Made said, referring to the independence drive.

Another Estonian who attended the event said: "There was nothing said that was basically new. But it rounded off the whole summer."

On June 17 more than 150,000 people assembled at the Song Festival ground in support of the Popular Front. On August 23, the anniversary of a Soviet-Nazi wartime pact whose secret protocols provided for the annexation of the Baltic states by Moscow, Estonians staged further nationalist demonstrations.

Estonia was an independent state for 18 years before it was annexed in 1940.

National Soviet media did not mention the rally on Sunday.

Moscow TV Reports 'Festivities'

LD1209100688 Moscow Television Service in Russian 0230 GMT 12 Sep 88

[From the "120 Minutes" program]

[Text] One hundred fifty thousand people, among whom were singers, musicians, and folk music fans, gathered in the Pevcheskoye field in Tallinn last Sunday. This is the way in which the festivities devoted to the Estonian Song 1988 were marked.

'Very Sharp' Speeches Reported

LD1209113588 Hamburg DPA in German 0942 GMT 12 Sep 88

[Excerpt] Moscow (DPA)—The Estonian population is evidently supporting the leadership of their republic in the effort to achieve more economic and cultural independence. As DPA learned on Monday from Tallinn, the Estonian capital, on Sunday evening at "Singers' Field" in that city, about one-third of the approximately 1 million Estonians gathered for a meeting of the "People's Front." The entire party leadership was present at the meeting. According to the Estonian mission in Moscow, however, only 150,000 Estonians were supposed to have taken part in the official function. As the spokesman for the mission added, this was a "totally official" event.

In the report from Tallinn, it was said that the speech by Estonian party leader Vayno Vyalyas at the Central Committee plenum that ended on Saturday had been received with enthusiasm by the people. According to TASS, the official Soviet news agency, the plenum called for, among other things, the elevation of Estonian to the rank of a state language.

The report said that "very sharp" speeches were delivered at the rally. One speaker, the antiquarian (Trivini Velliste), demanded that Estonia had to fight to leave the Soviet Union. He had also appealed for monuments to be erected in Tallinn in honor of Konstantin Pats, president of the republic in the interwar period, and General Johannes Laidoner. "We do not even know where they are buried", he apparently said.

(Edgar Sawisaar), an economist and leader of the "People's Front", had called for caution. He called on the Estonians not to rush things in the struggle for more economic and cultural independence and to proceed wisely. He appealed for peaceful coexistence with other nationalities. [passage omitted]

'Hostile' Emigre Ukrainians To Be Exposed

PM1009170988 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 11 Sep 88 Morning Edition p 6

[Unattributed report: "At the USSR KGB"]

[Text] On 14 September this year the Ukrainian SSR Foreign Ministry and the Ukrainian Union of Journalists will hold a news conference in Kiev for Soviet and foreign correspondents concerning the hostile activity of the reactionary Ukrainian emigre extremist center known as the "External Units of the Organization of Ukrainian Nationalists" [zakordonnyye chasti organizatsii ukrainskikh natsionalistov] against the USSR and Poland.

Those present will be addressed by operatives of the USSR KGB and the Polish Ministry of Internal Affairs who have conducted a long-term counterintelligence operation, and also by Soviet citizens who have participated directly in measures against the ringleaders of the nationalist center. Specific material evidence will be submitted which corroborates the complicity of foreign subversion centers in the perpetration of acts of ideological subversion against the USSR and the countries of the socialist community.

Former Riga Inhabitant Stripped of Citizenship

PM0909142788 Moscow ARGUMENTY I FAKTY in Russian No 37, 10-16 Sep (Signed to Press 8 Sep 88) p 6

[Unattributed report under the general heading "USSR KGB Reports and Comments": "Stripped Of Soviet Citizenship..."]

[Text] After representations by the KGB, the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium has stripped Olga Yevgenyevna Vyakhyasalo of Soviet citizenship for actions discrediting the title of citizen of the USSR and damaging the prestige of the USSR.

O.Ye. Vyakhyasalo, born in 1957, a Russian, nonparty, former inhabitant of Riga, divorced a USSR citizen in 1981, married again to a foreigner, officially renounced parental rights to her 4-year-old daughter, and went to take up permanent residence with her new husband in Finland. Before leaving she had led a parasitic way of life and engaged in prostitution and currency speculation.

When in Finland Vyakhyasalo established close links with foreign neo-Nazi and anti-Soviet emigre organizations, including the notorious "People's Labor Alliance," and became actively involved in their subversive activity against the USSR. Using foreigners visiting our country and international and Soviet internal mail channels, she carried out hostile ideological indoctrination of people she knew in the Latvian SSR, regularly sent them anti-Soviet propaganda, and tried to get them to leave the country. She also made persistent attempts to get some of her acquaintances in the USSR to gather military, political, and slanderous information and sought, for unseemly purposes, to establish contact with people previously convicted of espionage and other crimes. In order to arrange for material of interest to her to be secretly dispatched to the West, Vyakhyasalo provided certain USSR citizens with addresses used by the "People's Labor Alliance," "Amnesty International," and similar organizations.

In order to limit Vyakhyasalo's hostile subversive activity she was prohibited from entering our country for 3 years as well as being stripped of Soviet citizenship.

Concern Voiced Over Lithuanian Nuclear Plant

LD0909194288 Vilnius in English to North America 2200 GMT 7 Sep 88

[Excerpts] The Lithuanian public is greatly concerned over the current situation at the Ignalina nuclear power plant which is located in eastern Lithuania. [passage omitted]

Today new developments at the Ignalina nuclear power plant have come to light. As reported by the TIESA, the main Lithuanian daily, it appears that the second fire broke out in the same block last Monday, damaging an electricity cable. It is not yet known whether the second fire caused any immediate danger to the basic systems in the reactor. However, there is every reason to believe that the reactor had not yet been put into operational use in the aftermath of the first fire that same day.

Several governmental commissions are simultaniously investigating these incidents. The latest report brings to three the number of fires that have broken out in the Ignalina nuclear power plant since last July.

The radiation level within the power plant and in the immediate surroundings remain stable and unchanged.

Lithuanian Writers Urge 'Progressive' Journalism

LD0909204588 Vilnius in English to North America 2200 GMT 4 Sep 88

[From the press review]

[Excerpts] In our weekly digest of the press we keep mentioning the same three or four titles of newspapers in spite of the fact that there are several times more newspapers in Lithuania. [passage omitted] Many Lithuanian newspapers haven't so far managed to overcome the stagnation syndrome, and, therefore, they seldom put forward interesting problematic publications. [passage omitted]

It is not by accident that the anxious journalists of the Television and Radio Committee weekly VILNIUS CALLING have published their letter of protest once again in the weekly NATIVE LAND. A number of active and capable journalists working for the weekly VILNIUS CALLING, as well as other journalists who are responsible for television and radio programs, have to obey the governing body of the Lithuanian Television and Radio Committee which but reluctantly and scantily reflects the activities of the Lithuanian movement for perestroyka. Here is a quotation from the journalists' letter:

We, the journalists of the television and radio, wish that Lithuanian radio and especially television should absorb and disseminate the currently most popular progressive ideas in our society instead of carefully dragging their feet and fearing to make a false step.

Leading Armenian SSR Officials Discuss Issues

NC0909174288 Yerevan Domestic Service in Armenian 1600 GMT 9 Sep 88

[Summary From Poor Reception] A meeting was held in the republic during which the "USSR's 19th all-union conference and the USSR Communist Party Central Committee's July 1988 Plenum" decisions on moral-ideological and socioeconomic issues were discussed. "Members of the Armenian SSR Communist Party Central Committee Bureau" and "members of the Armenian SSR Communist Party Central Committee," as well as "leading party, soviet, and economic workers," attended the meeting and "constructive" discussions were held "on the problems faced by our people and on ways to overcome them." "Emphasizing the historic significance of the 19th all-union conference in the process of perestroyka," the participants in the meeting discussed the elements that are "delaying our progress" and "harming" development. "They warmly supported the decisions adopted by the 19th all-union conference and by the USSR Communist Party Central Committee's July 1988 Plenum, the successful implementation of which both in our republic and in the entire country will accelerate the improvement of the moral-ideological atmosphere" and will also help to overcome problems in the "socioeconomic field." "The participants in the

meeting warmly supported the Armenian SSR Communist Party Central Committee's appeal which has been published in the press" concerning the upcoming Armenian SSR Communist Party plenum. "Letters and proposals from workers' collectives and from individual communists, all of which have been published in the republic's press, prove that all the communists of the Armenian SSR" support the republic's new party leadership in its measures toward the "improvement of the moral-ideological climate in our republic," toward social development, and toward the improvement of the workers' welfare. The participants in the meeting expressed support for the steps being taken in our republic called for by the 19th all-union conference and by the USSR Communist Party Central Committee July Plenum.

100,000 Armenians Reportedly Rally in Yerevan

AU0909190088 Paris AFP in English 1846 GMT 9 Sep 88

[Text] Yerevan, Soviet Union, Sept 10 (AFP)—About 100,000 Armenian nationalists invaded Opera Square here on Friday, many waving rebel tri-colour flags, singing nationalist songs and demanding the restitution of Nagorno-Karabakh enclave in Azerbaijan, AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE reported.

The demonstration, organised by the banned Karabakh committee, was the second this month after a summer lull in the unrest which shook the Republics of Armenia and Azerbaijan earlier this year.

Armenian nationalists want the predominantly Armenian and Christian region of Nagorno-Karabakh to be reincorporated into Armenia. It was ceded to the overwhelmingly Moslem Republic of Azerbaijan under Stalin.

Since July, when the Kremlin officially refused the demand, the nationalist movement has expanded and grown more radical, according to demonstrators. The Karabakh committee ignored an official ban on Friday's demonstration and has added state protection of the Armenian language to its list of demands.

Authorities countered on Friday by slapping fines of 300 rubles (500 dollars) on committee members who spoke at the demonstration.

But Yerevan residents say the committee enjoys wide popular support.

Students mounted a hunger strike in Opera Square on Wednesday to demand an end to "pressures" against committee members, as well as the right to gather in the square.

Last Saturday, a crowd broke through barricades which security forces had erected around Opera Square, site of some of the most serious nationalist demonstrations, but police continued to patrol the periphery.

A third demonstration is expected in Opera Square in the next 24 hours to call for the defense of the Armenian language.

Shcherbina Meets With Armenian Catholic Leader

LD1209084188 Moscow TASS in English 0624 GMT 12 Sep 88

[Excerpts] Yerevan September 12 TASS—Follows news from Soviet Armenia:

[Passage omitted] Celebrations are being prepared at the Echmiadzin Catholicosate on the occasion of the 80th birthday of the supreme patriarch, catholicos of all Armenians Vazgen the first to be held in September. The primate of the Armenian Church was congratulated on this occasion by Boris Shcherbina, vice chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, who is currently staying in the republic, Suren Arutynyan, first secretary of the Communist Party of Armenia Central Committee and Fadey Sarkisyan, Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Armenian SSR, who visited Echmiadzin.

A detailed exchange of views was held in the residence of the catholicos on the role and place of the Armenian Church in resolving the tasks facing the republic, a more active participation of churchmen in peace-making activities and in strengthening friendship between the people of the Soviet Union. The positive role was noted of the Armenian Church during the recent events in the republic in connection with the situation in Nagorno-Karabakh. In the course of the conversation the need was stressed of broad involvement of progressive foreign Armenian communities in the movement in support of the Soviet peace initiatives for preventing the weapons race, for a nuclear free world and humanity's survival. [passage omitted]

Developments, Construction in Armenia Cited

LD0809191588 Moscow TASS in English 1417 GMT 8 Sep 88

[Text] Yerevan September 8 TASS—Follows news of Soviet Armenia:

Nagorno-Karabakh Develops

The Armenia-based All-Union Research Institute of Radio-Physical Measurements has begun the construction of a major scientific, economic and medicinal facility here—an antenna providing ground to feature an antenna 16 metres in diameter.

Armenian workers, researchers and employees have shared in devising a programme to promote the development of Nagorno-Karabakh, with the new science centre just one of the programme's provisions.

Another is a diagnostics centre to be established in Stepanakert with practical assistance and advice from the identical republican centre and hospitals in Yerevan.

New Schools Built

Eighteen new school buildings have been built in Armenia this year. Besides, some 500 schools across the republic have been repaired, with construction costs last summer running to a total of more than 10 million roubles.

Plans for the current five-year-plan period (1986-1990) provide for several more tens of schools to be built in Armenia, particularly in its rural areas.

Stepan Alaverdyan's Centenary

Armenia's public has observed the centenary of Stepan Alaverdyan (1888-1920), a notable revolutionary, one of the initiators and leaders of the May 1920 uprising in Aleksandropol (now Leninakan).

Alaverdyan greatly contributed to the establishment of soviet power in Georgia and Armenia in 1918-1920.

After the uprising was quashed, Alaverdyan and other leaders (Musaelyan and Garibzhanyan) were shot by the Dashnak nationalists.

Several schools and streets in Yerevan and other towns and cities of the republic have been given Alaverdyan's name.

Yerevan Musicians Set Up New Cooperative

Dvin, a new cooperative to cater for the musical needs of Yerevan dwellers, has been registered at the City Soviet Executive Committee.

With a hall seating 150, hired in Norashen new residential borough, the cooperative will specialize in holding disco- and videotheques, also leasing its premises to celebrate anniversaries, weddings, etc.

Dvin's staff includes an experienced chef, waiters, a photographer and a musical band.

"A loan from the state enabled us to buy the necessary equipment and musical instruments and sign contracts with musicians: We have a quartet and a band", cooperative chairman Mkrtych Mikaelyan said.

Comments on Chemicals in Azerbaijan, Alcohol

LD0909221388 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1500 GMT 9 Sep 88

[Text] An unhappy outcome in the race for records: Perhaps that is how one could describe the state of affairs that has developed regarding the health of the people of Azerbaijan. The race for records in agriculture that began in the seventies has now led to an upsurge in hereditary diseases. This is the conclusion reached by a group of researchers from Baku's Traumatology and Othopedics Scientific Research Institute who have been conducting their work in conjunction with scientists from a number of the republic's institutes.

On the basis of an analysis of more than 30,000 case histories, trends have been observed in the distribution of such diseases. It transpires that the overwhelming majority of patients live in agricultural regions, where the rules of hygiene have been crudely flouted in the use of herbicides and chemical fertilizers, and in towns with a seriously aggravated ecological situation. Azerbaijan is, sadly, the leader in the per hectare use of pesticides: On cotton and vegetable plantations the permitted sanitary norms have been exceeded by tens of times, while in vineyards by almost 100 times.

The researchers have been studying the individual consequences of the overuse of chemical treatments for fields. They have succeeded in establishing that the number of cases of illness reached its peak in 1980. The forecast up to the year 2000 is that, if emergency steps are not taken, then there will be a continued increase in the number of people suffering from congenital deformities of bone joints. Incidentally, the researchers are experiencing quite major problems in carrying out their work. For the time being it is running on enthusiasm alone.

Now a few more sad statistics: 20,800 of our countrymen in the past year paid for their fondness for alcohol with their lives. This grim figure was adduced by the USSR Goskomstat. True, this figure is lower than in 1984, which was before the start of the widescale measures to overcome drunkenness and alcoholism. But we would like to acquaint you with the opinion of (Vladimir Petrunya), a TASS observer, who does not always agree with the statisticians' figures. He points out that the statistics take account only of the tragedies directly related to alcohol. But the drunk situation is somewhat different to what it was in 1984, let us say. Lotions, insecticides, eau de cologne, and even shoe polish were not widely consumed then.

But let us speak openly: Today's addiction to toxicants is a result of the serious overeagerness, or rather the excesses, in pursuing the policy of a sober way of life. How many lives has this policy claims? Goskomstat does not give an answer to that question. But at any rate, it does not link the tragedy of poisoning to the cavalier and prohibitive attempts to pull many people away from the unhealthy desire for alcohol. For this reason, the picture painted by the reports is much rosier than it is in reality. But do rosy tints really go with ruined lives, wonders the TASS observer.

Further Reportage on Trial of Churbanov, Others

Lawyer Suffers 'Heart Attack'

LD0909121988 Moscow TASS in English 1135 GMT 9 Sep 88

[Text] Moscow September 9 TASS—By TASS correspondent Nikita Demidov:

The Military Collegium of the USSR Supreme Court has fixed the order in which nine defendants in the trial of former First Deputy Minister for the Interior Yuriy Churbanov and former top officers of the Uzbekistan Interior Ministry will be questioned.

Pyotr Begelman, former deputy minister for the interior of Uzbekistan, was the first today to have started giving testimony.

In keeping with the order established, Churbanov will be seventh to produce his testimony.

After the questioning, the judges will view the video recordings of their testimony made during the preliminary investigation and study other investigation materials and only then will call in witnesses.

As the reading of the indictment ended yesterday, two defendants refused to admit guilt, three admitted their guilt partially, and four, fully.

Commenting on the latest developments, the state prosecutor, Maj.-Gen. Aleksander Sboyev, observed:

"Judging by the defendants' remarks at the start of the trial, when former Uzbekistan Interior Minister Khaydar Yakhyayev said that he did not understand at all why he was put on trial, I expected that his 'example' would be followed by the other co-accused.

"As a representative of the prosecution, I respect more the behaviour of the defendants who have not changed their previous testimony. But I'm ready for this, too.

"As to the others, I can say that their actions should be assessed as a kind of defence, which is not banned by law."

The trial proceedings were suddenly stopped today and adjourned until 10 am, September 12 after Churbanov's lawyer Andrey Makarov suffered a heart attack.

The doctors who are present at the trial extended required aid to Makarov. Diagnosis will be made after studying the electrocardiogram made on the spot.

The doctors hope that Markarov would be able to attend the trial on Monday.

Indictment Read, Pleas Entered

PM1109181588 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 10 Sep 88 Second Edition p 6

[Special correspondents G. Ovcharenko and A. Chernenko report "From the Courtroom": "Indictment Read Out"]

[Text] The Military Collegium of the USSR Supreme Court has completed the reading of the indictment in the criminal case involving a number of former senior officials of the internal affairs organs.

Behind each episode of the indictment lies the story of the moral degradation of these people.

Various people are in the dock—and they are conducting themselves variously. Yu. Churbanov sits in silence, motionless. D. Dzhamalov, former chief of the Tashkent Oblispolkom Internal Affairs Administration, keeps his head on his hands, which are lowered to the barrier in front of him; Kh. Yakhyayev, former minister of internal affairs of the Uzbek SSR, and T. Makhramanov, former deputy internal affairs minister of the republic, emphasize with gestures their disagreement with the indictment.

Strange are the Western press publications which endeavor to demonstrate that in Moscow the criminal proceedings are acquiring a supposedly "political" coloration, that what happened in Uzbekistan is supposedly a product of socialism. Nothing of the sort! Bribe-takers and moneygrubbers are, unfortunately, a feature of any social system, at any time. And this Churbanov is being judged not on his blood ties but on what he perpetrated.

...The reading of the indictment is completed in an onerous silence.

"Is the indictment understood?" the defendants are asked by Major General of Justice M. Marov, who is presiding at the sitting of the USSR Supreme Court's Military Collegium. "Do you acknowledge your guilt?"

As was to be expected, the responses vary. Without any hesitation Kh. Yakhyayev and T. Makhramanov rejected the charge completely. S. Sabirov, D. Dzhamalov, Kh. Norbutayev, Ya. Makhamadzhanov, and M. Norov admitted their partial guilt on the charge submitted. P. Begelman fully admitted his guilt in taking and giving bribes. Yu. Churbanov confessed to abuse of office.

The trial continues.

Resolutions on Veterans Benefits, Road Services

LD0809101588 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1300 GMT 7 Sep 88

[Text] The USSR Council of Ministers has passed a resolution on measures to improve service facilities on highways. It is deemed necessary to accomplish construction of road service complexes on the most important roads of the RSFSR in the period 1988-91. A road service complex will contain premises with sleeping accommodations for 80-100, a cafeteria and canteen, a car wash, a guarded parking area for vehicles, and a filling station. It is ordered that medical aid as well as postal, telephone, and telegraph communication facilities be made available to drivers and passengers at road service complexes. Operation of road service complexes

will be organized on the basis of full financial autonomy and self-financing with broad application of cooperative, lease, and team contracts and other progressive forms of service to the population.

The USSR Council of Ministers also passed resolutions on additional measures to improve the material and domestic conditions of persons who have fulfilled their internationalist duty in the Republic of Afghanistan, and of their families; on measures to improve the organization of purchasing valuable metals and gems from the population; and also, jointly with the AUCCTU, a resolution on expanding the rights of enterprises and organizations in the matter of improving provision of special clothing, special footwear, and other means of personal protection to working people. The resolutions will be published in the press.

Reader Calls for Debate on Demonstration Law
PM1209105788 Moscow SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA in Russian 10 Sep 88 p 1

[Reader's letter under the rubric "What Is Perturbing Us?": "And the Questions Remain..."]

[Text] I read in MOSKOVSKAYA PRAVDA in early August about the way the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium Decree "On Procedures for Organizing and Holding Meetings, Rallies, Street Marches, and Demonstrations in the USSR" will operate. Minister of Justice B. Kravtsov hastened to announce that any breach of these procedures would entail administrative and criminal liability and the imposition of fines of R300, R1,000, and R2,000. It was not easy to discern from the minister's commentary what would be the procedure and organization for approved demonstrations, but there was absolute clarity regarding those not approved—harsh punishment.

Why am I so concerned about this? Let me be frank: I sympathize with the informal democratic organizations. I was profoundly amazed that their representatives were not included in the working group which drafted this document. Is there no need to take their interests into account? Or could it be that they will all be ranked as harmful and malicious in one fell swoop? I certainly do not believe that demonstrations are organized only by nationalists, chauvinists, and representatives of alien ideology. Everybody needs a free rostrum, because this is the most important instrument for society's democratization. This is why I feel it necessary that the statutory instrument that will be based on the decree and will regulate the holding of demonstrations and marches should be published. It should be submitted to nationwide discussion.

P. Orlov, Solnechnogorsk

Book Extract on Stalin, Trotskiy Published
LD0809210388 Moscow TASS in English 2040 GMT 8 Sep 88

[Text] Moscow September 9 TASS—The newspaper PRAVDA today published under the title "Demon of the Revolution" an excerpt from the book "Triumph and Tragedy" by Colonel-General Dmitriy Volkogonov, which deals with relationship between Stalin and Trotskiy.

The editorial preface to this publication says: Various people—with extraordinary destinies, views and capabilities—were next to Lenin on the historic scene in the October days. One of the figures of that time was Lev Trotskiy (Leiba Davydovich Bronstein)—a former Menshevik. Lenin is known to have called him "Judas" back in 1911. In the summer of 1917 Trotskiy joined the Bolsheviks.

Being quite a gifted publicist, speaker and organizer, Trotskiy played a well-known role in the October armed uprising and eventually in the Civil War years when he was people's commissar for military and naval affairs and chairman of the revolutionary council.

In the political bequeathal—the letter to the congress—Lenin, calling Trotskiy and Stalin outstanding leaders of the present-day Central Committee, drew the attention of the party members to serious negative personal qualities of each of them. Their relationship, as Lenin foresaw it, posed a danger to the party. The struggle between them became one of the dramatic pages of our history.

Following Lenin's death, Trotskiy's excessive claims to leadership in the party became manifest. Lenin's appraisal of him as a self-confident, perennially dodging and shifting, and tricky politician was confirmed. In emigration Trotskiy slipped down to anti-Soviet and anti-Marxist positions.

Norilsk To Build Monument to Stalin Victims
PM1209095388 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 9 Sep 88 Morning Edition p 6

[I. Aleksandrov report "In Memory of the Prisoners of 'Norillag'"]

[Text] Norilsk—Complying with the wishes of the majority of Norilsk inhabitants, the gorispolkom has opened special account No 70202 at the local branch of the Industrial Construction Bank for voluntary contributions to the construction of a monument to the victims of Stalin's repressions, a monument to the people who lived the nightmare of the huts of "Norillag."

Tens of thousands upon tens of thousands of people rounded up from all over the country became the involuntary builders of the gigantic metallurgical combine and the city in the snow-covered wasteland. Many died after a short time from work that was beyond their

strength, from malnutrition, scurvy, and respiratory diseases. Many were shot. However, there are also many who managed to survive the penal servitude and have lived to tell their story and that of their friends who perished.

A public committee to perpetuate the memory of the victims of the repressions has been set up in the city. Its activists and the public are conducting an investigation to rehabilitate the names of the first inhabitants of Norilsk, who were sent into exile here. The city newspaper ZAPOLYARNAYA PRAVDA, the television studio, and the radio are carrying material about former Taymyr prisoners, living and dead.

The well-known names, now spoken with pride and respect, would cover several pages by themselves. They include the man who first discovered the Norilsk copper-nickel ores, geologist N. Urvantsev; A. Milchakov, one of the first general secretaries of the Komsomol Central Committee; writer Aleksey Garri, aide-de-camp to the legendary civil war hero G. Kotovskiy; Blagoy Popov, member of the Bulgarian Communist Party Central Committee Politburo and a comrade-in-arms of Georgi Dimitrov; historian Lev Gumilev, son of Anna Akhmatova and the poet Nikolay Gumilev, who was shot; People's Artist of the USSR Georgiy Zhzhenov; Kalmykia People's Poet David Kugultinov; Yevgeniy Ryabchikov, the well-known publicist....

However, it is not a matter of famous names. None of those who suffered as a result of lawlessness must be forgotten. Nothing must be forgotten. And the monument or memorial to be constructed in Norilsk is to serve this noble task. An open competition is to be announced for the design of this monument. The inhabitants of Norilsk have decided to collect at least R200,000 for the construction of the monument. The first tens of thousands have already been paid into the "memorial account." Learning about the account, former Norilsk inhabitants who now live on the "mainland" are more and more frequently sending in their voluntary contributions. According to the estimate of the public organizing committee, there are around 2 million such people.

Film of 13th Party Congress Reviewed, Discussed

PM0909103188 Moscow TRUD in Russian 4 Sep 88 p 4

[Article by V.A. Kumanev, corresponding member of the USSR Academy of Sciences, under the rubric "Historian's Notes": "Declassified Film"]

[Text] I was one of a few spectators who were the first to see these unique scenes. The film was found by employees of the state film and photographic documents archive. The movie had been very strictly classified for many years. And indeed it was surprising that the documentary film "The 13th Party Congress" had been preserved at all....

The delegates to the congress assembled 4 months after the death of Lenin—23 May 1924. You can see the imprint of mourning: On the stage, over the presidium, is a portrait of Lenin framed in gray-black (red) crepe, the walls of the auditorium are decked in mourning.... In all about 1,200 delegates, 70 percent of them with party service going back before the revolution, gathered in the Great Kremlin Palace.

The congress opens. Everyone rises, because the first words uttered at the congress are devoted to the memory of Vladimir Ilich. There is deep sorrow on their faces.

L.B. Kamenev speaks. When V.I. Lenin was alive he usually chaired Politburo sessions. N.I. Bukharin's speech (2 June 1924) leaves a vivid impression. Vladimir Ilich died in his arms. In his article "In Memory of Ilich" Bukharin recalled: "When I ran into Ilich's room crammed with medicines and full of doctors, Ilich was taking his last breath. His face was turned back, he was terribly pale, he wheezed, his hands drooped—and Ilich was no more. It was as though time had stopped. As though everyone's hearts had ceased to beat.... Goodbye, dear one!" (PRAVDA 21 January 1925). In Bukharin's entire appearance you can sense—although it is silent cinema—his skill as a speaker, his emotion conveyed to the delegates, and his profound conviction.

N.I. Bukharin's place is taken by the communists' envoys who greet the congress—envoys from Bulgaria (Vasil Kolarov), Britain (Harry Pollitt), Japan (Sen-Katayama) [name as published], France, the Communist Youth International (A. Shokhin), and the International Peasants Council (the person has not yet been identified), and from local worker and peasant delegations. Klara Tsetkin—from the international organization of proletarian and communist women—speaks with particular passion.

Then G.Ye. Zinovyev—a member of the Central Committee Politburo (elected in 1921)—mounts the rostrum. He delivered the Central Committee political report at the 12th and 13th congresses. He is shown several times on the rostrum, as is A.I. Rykov, an eminent Bolshevik and Leninist and chairman of the USSR Soviet of People's Commissars (until 1930) and member of the Russian Communist Party (of Bolsheviks) Central Committee Politburo since 1923. Both behave simply, but Zinovyev is more mobile and impulsive.

Stalin and Trotskiy look quite different. If you compare the film's scenes, what they have in common is above all their pose, although Trotskiy speaks without a text, is in a hurry, and reinforces his words with vigorous gestures. Stalin speaks unhurriedly, looking at the text in front of him. Neither has the ease of the previous speakers. It is known that it was at this congress that L.D. Trotskiy, chairman of the USSR Revolutionary Military Soviet and member of the Central Committee Politburo, and

delegate Ye.A. Preobrazhenskiy accused the party Central Committee of underestimating the role of industry and the planned leadership of the economy and of dilatoriness in resolving these questions.

In the report on work in the countryside and the speech on the tasks of education, N.K. Krupskaya noted the great difficulties in this matter and dwelled on a very important instruction of V.I. Lenin—taking vigorous steps to improve the teachers' material position and constructing new schools, primarily in "remote villages." The delegates listen to Nadezhda Konstantinovna with sadness and special attention....

A ceremonial demonstration was held in Red Square in honor of the 13th congress. Kamenev and Trotskiy speak. But where is Stalin? Here he is, in the corner of the right wing (at the time built of wood) of the Mausoleum of Vladimir Ilich, observing the procession of pioneers and military units. He stands after Kamenev, Zinovyev, Rykov, Bukharin, Trotskiy, Frunze, and Dzerzhinskiy....

We will not touch now on all the congress decisions. But we may ask: Did it fulfill all the tasks facing it? Let us recall that it was this congress which should have discussed V.I. Lenin's political bequest ("Letter to the Congress"). Its first section was addressed to the routine 12th Russian Communist Party (of Bolsheviks) Congress. In the second part, which contained character assessments of a number of prominent party members, and the last part (24 December), Lenin gave a negative assessment of Stalin's personal qualities. But there was no discussion at the 13th party congress. Or to be more precise, there was a discussion but it did not take place as V.I. Lenin proposed.

The letter opened with the suggestion that the number of Central Committee members be increased to several dozen or even to 100 people drawn basically from workers taken from their work. It is true that at the 12th congress the Central Committee was increased, but among the 17 new members and 13 new candidate members of the Central Committee there was in fact not a single worker or peasant. The delegates were obviously not acquainted with Lenin's true wish. Nor did the 13th party congress follow this advice from Ilich: The expansion of the Central Committee also took place by enlisting people's commissars, provincial committee secretaries, and other leaders and apparatus workers. I remember the comment by K.Ye. Voroshilov, the general secretary's companion: "...Comrade Stalin has the apparatus in his hands and he can use it and move it...."

In the 5 days before the opening of the 13th party congress N.K. Krupskaya presented the full text of the "Letter to the Congress" and a number of other materials to the commission for receiving Lenin's documents, which consisted of Zinovyev, Stalin, and Kamenev. On 21 May 1924, contrary to Lenin's will, the Central Committee plenum, not without the influence of these leaders, who at the time cooperated closely with each other, decreed that the "Letter to the Congress" be made public to the delegations, stipulating also that these documents were not to be reproduced and that they would be read out by members of the commission. At the plenum Stalin formally asked to be relieved of his duties as Central Committee general secretary, but the plenum did not satisfy that request.

The question arises: Why? A part here was obviously played by the active support given to him by authoritative figures like Zinovyev and Kamenev, with whom he formed a kind of "nucleus" which countered immoderate claims to the leadership from L.D. Trotskiy. There is also a speculation that in those years Stalin was considerably less popular than Zinovyev and Kamenev, Rykov and Trotskiy, and several other prominent leaders and old revolutionaries. Incidentally, the subject of Lenin's "bequest" has absolutely no part in the film.

All this was no accident: The "Letter to the Congress" was not officially read out at the congress but merely read in the delegations. It was not even one of the official documents of the 13th Russian Communist Party (of Bolsheviks) Congress.

And in the thirties it was already dangerous to speak of the "bequest." At the height of the repressions it was declared to be a fake. On the other hand other allegedly genuine documents appeared. His entourage (Molotov, Voroshilov, Malenkov, Kaganovich, Yezhov, Zhdanov, Beriya, Byshinskiy, Shkiryatov, and others) made special efforts to extol the "architect of Communism." Stalin personally "edited" his biography (the second edition was published in 1948) and it was he who introduced into it epithets like "captain of all times and all the peoples," "symbol of courage, symbol of glory," "brilliant strategist," and "master of the revolution...."

I should like to draw attention to one important detail in V.I. Lenin's "Letter to the Congress." Vladimir Ilich said that Stalin, having been made general secretary, concentrated vast power in his hands.... Note: having been made, not having been elected. Is it an accident that Lenin uses this word, which he employs only in the "Behest?" That is, even after 3 April 1922, when I.V. Stalin became general secretary (V.I. Lenin did not attend the plenum; it was chaired by Kamenev, and it was he who nominated Stalin for the new post of general secretary) Ilich did not focus attention on his "general secretaryship." That includes his last letter to him, dated 5 March 1923, on the subject of Stalin's insulting of N.K. Krupskaya. When Stalin died 5 March 1953, the obituary notice spoke of the death of the chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers and CPSU Central Committee secretary. And it was only in September that the (1953) Plenum introduced the post of CPSU Central Committee first secretary.

"Vladimir Ilich would consider and weigh every word," A.I. Mikoyan recalled in a conversation. "Every word he dictated carried the most profound meaning." So to what extent was the question of Stalin's appointment agreed upon with V.I. Lenin? This obviously requires a special study.

As stressed by the 19th all-union party conference, it is not enough to take pride in the history of Soviet society and its heroic pages. It must be known with scientific reliability in order to learn an object lesson from it. Of course, we must not only illuminate the "dark places" in history but also, if possible, restore the pages torn from it. And the documentary cinema—an important instrument in seeking the truth—comes to the aid of historical science in this matter. That is why the film "The 13th Party Congress," which has been a dead weight for decades, must become the possession of the broad public.

Obituary Notes Boytsov's Role in Rehabilitations

PM0909142988 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 9 Sep 88 Second Edition p 8

[Obituary of Ivan Pavlovich Boytsov]

[Excerpts] Ivan Pavlovich Boytsov, CPSU member since 1919 and personal pensioner of all-union status, died at the age of 92 on 6 September 1988 after a severe illness. We have lost a representative of the group of Communists who went through all stages of the difficult and glorious struggle for socialism, starting with the Civil War. [passage omitted]

From 1946 through 1956 I.P. Boytsov worked as first secretary of the Stavropol party kraykom. In 1956-1961 he was deputy and then first deputy chairman of the CPSU Central Committee Party Control Committee. In this position I.P. Boytsov did great work in the political rehabilitation of people unjustifiably repressed in the thirties, forties, and early fifties. In 1961-1962 I.P. Boytsov worked as chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers Soviet Control Commission. [passage omitted]

[Signed] Group of comrades

Yeltsin Interviewed on Restructuring

WA18000644A Riga SOVETSKAYA MOLODEZH in Russian 4 Aug 88 pp 1-3

[Interview with B.N. Yeltsin, first deputy chairman of the USSR Gosstroy and delegate to the 19th all-union party conference, by Aleksandr Olbik: "Social Justice—The Compass of Restructuring"; date and place not given—first three paragraphs are editorial introduction]

[Text] Boris Nikolayevich Yeltsin was born in 1931, in the village of Butka in Sverdlovsk Oblast. His parents were peasants. In truth, during the "lean years," as our interviewee put it, his father was recruited to be sent to the city to work in construction.

B. Yeltsin also for some time worked at construction sites and after completing the construction faculty and the Urals Polytechnical Institute he passed through all levels of the sectorial "hierarchy": He was a foreman and work superintendent, held the post of trust manager, and finally was the chief of a large combine. Managerial experience and organizational abilities brought him to party work. At the Sverdlovsk party obkom, he headed a section and was then appointed secretary, after which he was entrusted with the oblast party organization. Boris Nikolayevich worked for 10 years in this responsible position. He was then sent to Moscow, to the personnel of the CPSU Central Committee. Here he began as a section head, became a secretary, and in December 1985 the first secretary of the Moscow party gorkom. He was a candidate member of the Politburo; by the decision of the February (1988) Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee, he ceased being a candidate.

As deputy of the USSR Supreme Soviet and member of the CPSU Central Committee, B.N. Yeltsin participated in the work of the 19th party conference. This fact, particularly, was the starting point for a conversation with our guest.

[Olbik] Boris Nikolayevich, in our republic, as, incidentally, throughout the nation, meetings are being held with the delegates of the 19th party conference. Did what you sought coincide with what happened at this forum?

[Yeltsin] Of course, it would be naive to assume that the conference did or could resolve all the accumulating problems. But its importance is in and of itself great because it had a fundamental impact on the minds of people, their attitudes, and even on the entire situation in the country. In its essence, it was unprecedented. Did the goals sought, as you express it, coincide with reality? Certainly not in every manner. Possibly it did not adopt such decisions on which I, as a delegate, placed particular hopes. But this, probably, could also be said by any of the 5,000 delegates represented at the conference. Each obviously had his own minimum of expectations. But it must also be realized that there will soon be the plenum of the CPSU Central Committee (the talk was held on 23 June—Editor's Note), and here the conference decisions will be discussed in a more concentrated form. That is, more specific plans will be set to implement the party decisions. The conference did not elaborate instructions which could be set out in front of you and, rolling up your sleeves, for you to begin carrying them out. It provided a global political document and from the essence of this will follow more detailed decisions.

Now about the subjective, so to speak, perception of the conference. It seems that a delegate from Latvia in a note to the Presidium urged the speakers to talk on the essence of the question and not make self-reports. Unfortunately, there still was the old habit of spreading more about oneself than about the matters concerning all. At times, it was shameful that certain speakers representing prominent organizations spoke without a program or

major concern and so glibly that it seemed that we were already living in a world of tranquility and prosperity. The tone of other speeches was very reminiscent of the atmosphere of the 24th or 25th Congress. And I do not believe that such "rose-colored" speeches derived from an ignorance of the real situation in our country. Rather, their passivity can be explained by the desire to portray themselves as some "quiet restructurers." But this is more in conformity with stagnation than it is with a spirit of restructuring. Certainly restructuring is a struggle. It should be carried out not in a whisper and not with the help of figures of silence, even if these figures are very much to the liking of some.

The nation has come to be confronted with an extremely great amount of problems. And they are so acute that the slightest delay in dissolving them becomes simply dangerous. The attractiveness of socialism in recent decades has lost its luster somewhat. And again this is happening because of our awkwardness and our desire to show but not to prove. This simply cannot help but be taken into account. I am profoundly convinced that without truly revolutionary changes in the political structure of society, the economy, and the social sphere, the prestige of socialism will not rise.

[Olbik] Is this not happening because in former times we were more concerned with embellishing the "facade" than we were with arranging the "inner areas" of our common house?

[Yeltsin] The authority of an individual is formed not from what may be very correct but essentially "flowery" words but rather from the deeds which are useful for society. Here I emphasize: useful for society. It is no secret that our light industry for years has produced millions of pairs of footware while you could not even dream of buying good boots in a store. We produce more combines than anyone else in the world, but they are of the poorest quality.

The authority of the party also is formed not from loud slogans, appeals, decisions, or the number of conferences of congresses. Thank God, we do not have any shortage of all sorts of decisions and decrees. It is much more important to delve into the realities of life. And they are such that the needs of the population are far from fully satisfied. We have seemingly forgotten that it is **essential** to provide the people with a standard of living which could rival the other countries, or even surpass this, for we are fabulously rich. And if we will achieve this, authority will be ensured for socialism. The prestige of the party will be restored. As for now, we are significantly behind and seemingly we do not have so many ways to accelerate our progress. For this reason, if there is not a tangible rush forward (B. Yeltsin asked that the word "rush" not be associated with the word "leap."—Author's Note), the restructuring can peter out. Let us be honest: As for now, except for active work by the mass information media and the intelligentsia, no other striking shifts can be noticed. Or, in any event, they are very, very few.

I feel that we must set 2 or 3 clearly designated years during which a number of crucial problems should be resolved concerning the prosperity of the population. And whatever the cost these must be carried out. This will greatly maintain the spirit of the people and strengthen confidence in restructuring. The people must be fed and clothed abundantly and tastefully, and they must have a secure roof over their head. They must be persuaded of the irreversibility of democratization....

[Olbik] What do you mean by the words "key questions"?

[Yeltsin] Without any doubt: food, consumer goods and domestic services. And by "domestic services" I have in mind the generalized notion of the entire service sphere.

[Olbik] Your position clearly coincides with the position of another conference delegate, S. Fedorov: "The main evaluation of the management system should be from the level of the people's happiness."

[Yeltsin] That is actually the main thing for which the Great October Revolution came about and for the sake of which we, the communists, should work more and better than anyone else.

[Olbik] Boris Nikolayevich, during the period of proposing delegates for the 19th party conference, many were interested in whether Yeltsin would be elected to it. Who delegated you to the conference?

[Yeltsin] I do not wish to appear that this question was of no concern to me. How concerned I was! I was proposed by the 12,000-strong aktiv of communists from the Uralmash [Urals Machinery] Plant and other Urals enterprises, the city of Sverdlovsk, and many enterprises, organizations and institutes in Moscow. But the communists of Karelia elected me a delegate to the conference.

[Olbik] Comrade minister, you are almost legendary: They say, for example, that when Yeltsin was the first secretary of the Moscow party gorkom he demonstrated, and I emphasize this word, demonstrated his dislike for elitism. They say that you traveled to work on public transport and were often in the labor collectives, and even recently this was not very acceptable for party workers of such rank. What motives guided you in thus democratizing the activities of a nomenclatura worker?

[Yeltsin] Such is the conduct of a party leader, and it was not my invention. The 1917 socialist revolution would never have been victorious if the Bolsheviks had not gone into the masses. Not if they shunned and did not understand them. Bullets were fired at Lenin precisely at the moment he was returning from the Mikhelson Plant.

And believe me, I am not making too much of my work style because this has been a natural thing for me. When I was the first secretary of the Sverdlovsk party obkom, I visited virtually all the enterprises and had close contacts with the workers. And what can you then call contact with the masses if not a personal contact with them? What a working man might say by his machine tool he would scarcely dare say at an official reception. And our working man is accustomed in official places, particularly if there are large rostrums, to be more silent and, when he is asked, to applaud. And this happens not because he is so passive and unaware but merely because for decades it has been drummed into him: You support us and we ourselves will do all the rest. But have we been able to realize all that the worker has voted for?

Over the 2 years of work in Moscow as first secretary of the party organization, I visited some 200 industrial enterprises. Meetings with the labor collectives helped me understand their true view of restructuring, their mood and production problems. Otherwise, how could one feel real life? From the heights of power, it has sometimes seemed to us, the leaders, a patterned, attractive canvas. But when you change the prospective you see the flaws, the unfinished jobs, and even the rents in the patterns.

When, let us assume, I walked up the aisle of some shop and saw the sincere faces of the workers facing me, I passed by. I felt that here "there were no questions." But when you see only irritated and some malevolent ones, then without fail you must go up and immediately ask what is bothering the people, what are their concerns. Much becomes clear this way, far from sham contacts.

[Olbik] But still, Boris Nikolayevich, we would like to learn about the effectiveness of your, let us call it Yeltsin, work style. Certainly, it is possible to be on good terms with the masses, but have little benefit from this....

[Yeltsin] Understand me correctly: It is not at all a question of me, Yeltsin. Any other communist espousing democratic management principles could be in my place. If I told you that because I frequently visited the ZIL [Automotive Plant imeni Likhachev] Plant its collective began to work better, that would only be a half-truth. The truth is that the Moscow party organization, together with its first secretary, was vitally interested in improving the work of this large collective. And it actively influenced this and something, fortunately, was achieved. Over 2 years, the ZIL fulfilled its plan for all indicators.

Until 1985, the growth of Moscow's industry had been 1 or 2 percent; in the process of restructuring it has risen to 5 percent. The percentage of replacing the active portion of fixed capital has risen from 2 percent to 11. Moscow industry has grown obsolete and needs a fundamental restructuring, just as housing construction, public health, the service sphere, and others do. At one time I asked former Minister of Public Health Burenkov how he viewed the level of medical services for Muscovites. He stated: "The worst in the nation...." That was true. I began to visit the polyclinics and sit in line for several hours—at that time the Muscovites did not know me personally—and talk with people. I watched the clock and certain district physicians took a patient for not more than 5 minutes. What could you do in 5 minutes? Certainly, it eradicated once and for all any desire to trust the physicians and our entire public health....

I want to emphasize that, as first secretary of the Moscow party gorkom, I did not do anything to overplay myself in any way. In no instance. I had a pressing desire to meet with other people in a natural setting. And I feel that such a need should be present in the work of any rank leader, right up to the general secretary.

[Olbik] It is impossible to accuse M.S. Gorbachev of a lack of this need....

[Yeltsin] Actually, M.S. Gorbachev meets actively with the workers. But, unfortunately, far from all high-placed leaders follow his example. I know party, soviet, and economic leaders who are simply afraid to appear before the people. This is particularly so if they are awaited by a dissatisfied audience which you must "win over" and with which you must speak not in the language of a teletype but completely frankly and, most importantly, with a focus on solving a problem.

Yes, I have taken public transport and I will tell you that it is a very, very labor-consuming thing. If, for example, I plan to go to a certain plant, then I first found the route usually taken to the plant by the workers. For instance, the basic flow of workers from the Plant imeni Khrunichev come from the Strogino side. At 6 o'clock in the morning, here I got on a bus, took it to the subway, changed back to the bus and at 7 o'clock was at the enterprise gate. I did not wait for the director to arrive, but went to the shops and to the worker dining room. And when later the conversation reached the "hellish" problems of transport, I clearly understood the concern of the workers. And having understood the route of a problem, it is easier to find its weak points. And here it is no longer a question of using cold cost accounting which is usually found in management offices, but rather joint human experience begins to work. It is impossible to commence any major undertaking in being guided merely by economic considerations. No, in party life, and it is particularly important to realize this, there must be a driving emotion, if you like, passion. Sometimes they urged me to be calmer, more restrained, as this would give greater stature. I personally did not understand this. Lenin was a very emotional, passionate man and at the same time this did not prevent him from solving major problems. Certainly we are his followers. It is absurd to call oneself a Leninist and carry an icy heart in your chest.

I tried to learn Moscow's problems not from my office window. However, I certainly do not deny office work, as that was where we "sketched out" 24 programs for the development of Moscow to the year 2000. They are now all in effect.

Now about my attitude toward elitism. Let me repeat that I **never** wanted to put my "style" in opposition to anyone else. But what do we then call restructuring? An economic reform? It is vitally essential, but certainly without a destruction of the old stereotypes we certainly cannot master a reform. The person who has felt or does feel that my work methods are wrong, I feel, is himself the prisoner of bias. Conversely, the person who thinks that way must immediately change over. It is essential to reach out to others and speak with them in a human tongue. I view as a wise admonishment the words of V.I. Lenin at the 11th RKP(B) [Russian Communist Party (Bolshevik)] Congress: "In the masses of people we are still a drop in the bucket, and we can manage only when we correctly express what the people feel. Without this the Communist Party will not lead the proletariat, the proletariat will not lead the masses, and the entire machine will collapse."

[Olbik] The newspaper MOSKOVSKIYE NOVOSTI (17 July 1988), in an interview with V. Korotich, editor-in-chief of the magazine OGONEK, and correspondents from the newspapers THE GUARDIAN (Great Britain), KOLNER STADT ANZEIGER (FRG), and CORRIERE DELLA SERA (Italy) gives, in particular, your explanation of the interview with the magazine OGONEK.

[Yeltsin] Which, incidentally, has not yet been published. Here in the sanitorium (the Rizhskiy Zaliv [Gulf of Riga] Sanitorium.—Author Note), I have not seen MOSKOVSKIYE NOVOSTI....

[Author Comment] (Taking the opportunity, I provided B.N. Yeltsin with my copy of MOSKOVSKIYE NOVOSTI, and he immediately began to read the conversation of V. Korotich with the foreign journalists. The article was titled "Democracy Is Hard Work." In order that the readers can more easily understand what was being discussed in the talk with Comrade Yeltsin, let me quote from MOSKOVSKIYE NOVOSTI:

(Thus, the question to Korotich: "Why has your journal not published the interview prepared with Boris Yeltsin?"

(Korotich's reply: "In the interview there were several places which put me in a difficult situation. In the first place, there was a large number of statements addressed to other members of the party Central Committee. According to the logic of things, I should have granted them an interview and asked them to write a reply. This was rather complicated at that moment. The second puts Yeltsin himself in an awkward position. He describes how his wife goes to the store and stands in line as if this were some feat. To publish such a thing in the nation, where a majority of persons stand in lines, would scarcely increase the authority of Yeltsin himself. I asked him to work up his material more and set out a positive program in greater detail as the first deputy chairman of the USSR Gosstroy [State Construction Administration]. I feel that ultimately we will publish Yeltsin's interview."—Author's Note.)

[Yeltsin] I categorically do not agree with Korotich's assertions. He is clearly juggling the essence of my statements. Never have I myself nor my wife felt it to be a feat to go to the store as millions of Soviet people actually do. It is no question of the heroism of my wife but rather to finally bring the responsible workers down to earth. And this must be started from the leaders in the superior power echelon. Only their example will provide the hope of realizing social justice. However, although this is not the feat described by Korotich, it is very rare to find responsible workers and others close to them who would abandon their privileges. This is the first thing. Secondly, there is not to be any question of my further working up the interview. On the contrary, the magazine OGONEK has excused itself and promised to print it in the next few issues. Moreover, a specific publication date has even been given. I have given an interview to APN [NOVOSTI Press Agency] and they do not print it; I talked for 3 hours on the request of OGONEK, in vain. Now, thank God, they have found justification. In truth, not a convincing one. Now I do not know what the interview will be about. If it is about my work in the Gosstroy, there was certainly no discussion of this. I do not even have the moral right to speak about this as I have been working just several months in the Gosstroy. For this reason I simply am unable to provide an assessment of the sector.

[Olbik] At the party conference, many speeches voiced complaints of the journalists. Supposedly due to their efforts the confrontation of the "bottoms" with the "tops" was started. One of the delegates even related an anecdote about a fly, a newspaper, and a leader....

[Yeltsin] I feel this way: Our mass information media have been the quickest to restructure. When at the end of 1986 I met with the corps of correspondents, I urged them not to keep a balance of positive and negative material. As is known, as soon as such a quota appears you find the process of glasnost is buried in demagogic scraps. "We need complete and true information. And the truth should not depend upon whom it serves," wrote V.I. Lenin in 1921. It was in the context of this Leninist postulate that we held our talk with the mass information media workers. As soon as we begin a measured balancing of critical and so-called "reasonable" publications, we can give up on glasnost as a bad job. As soon as the newspapers, radio and, television flinch, everything will start backwards. It is another matter that the press is currently involved with the past and does not always spot the acute problems of today. Unfortunately,

recently the intensity of public affairs writing has somewhat lessened and there are fewer acute problems raised on the pages of the newspapers. One is struck by this.

[Olbik] At the conference you voiced doubt on combining the functions of the first secretaries of the party committees and the leaders of the soviet bodies. Has your approach to this question changed?

[Yeltsin] The decision on this question has already been made and I, as a Communist, must obey it. But as a voter I can say the following: The main thing is that such a combining of professions be carried out by an intelligent, educated, and good person. But this is not enough. It is essential that he know all soviet work from "A" to "Z". But what if he does not? What if he follows the peaks and does not bother with the valleys? Unfortunately, among the first secretaries there are those who do not want to see beyond their nose. There is no question of a creative approach to the job. Incidentally the democratic soviets will reflect, as a mirror, the level of such a leader.

[Olbik] Judging from the editorial mail, people want most of all to link restructuring with justice....

[Yeltsin] The principles of Soviet justice are measured not only by the ruble, a dacha, or a fancy trip. This certainly is important, but I want to say something else. We have stifled man **spiritually**. He has been under the pressure of exaggerated authorities, orders, unceasing instructions, an infinite number of decrees, and so forth. We have accustomed others not to unanimity but rather unanimous stifling. Is this socially just? If we are voting, then inevitably it is almost all 100 percent, if we are raising our hands, everyone to a man is "for." It is a shame that the word "pluralism" has reached us from the vocabulary of our ideological enemies.

As for the questions of the "unnormed" material support for individual groups in our society, here there is more than enough work to do. In this sense, the unearned goods are not being eliminated but the impression is arising that they are even growing. It seems to me that this is possible. But I am firmly convinced of one thing: The time will come and the questions of social justice will be resolved. And the person who has still not matured on this score will be made to do so by life.

It is no great sin to build departmental dachas, sanitoriums, or vacation facilities. If the money exists, build as much as you like. But there should be a measure. A measure. When this is exceeded, then a good is turned into a flagrant injustice. When in some town there are still barracks but nearby a luxurious villa is built for a superior, here it is hard to find even a hint of justice.

We also have strata of the population between which there is no balance in wages. One works more but earns less while the other lives at state "subsidy." This, I consider, is unjust. If in our society something is in short supply, then everyone should feel this. The leader of an agro-industrial complex who brings home products in short supply will never fight wholeheartedly for the Food Program. For him, this has already long since been solved. Social justice is in no way a utopia, as some endeavor to depict it. But if it does not triumph, sooner or later this will arouse dissatisfaction in the people. Mistrust of the party. Of Soviet power. Of socialism generally. And we, the Communists, serve whom? The people and not vice versa.

[Olbik] Boris Nikolayevich, you have been accused, when you were the first secretary of the Sverdlovsk party obkom, of putting the oblast on coupons.

[Yeltsin] Every day I receive a large packet of letters and one of these always touches on this question. My correspondent, with the aid of a reference of the TsSU [Central Statistical Administration], has shown that Sverdlovsk Oblast during the period indicated by my critics was not a parasite. In any event, the level of production and consumption of food products in Sverdlovsk was higher than for the nation as a whole. One must also consider something else: Sverdlovsk Oblast is among the most industrially saturated regions. There just 5 percent of the population is employed in agriculture. Naturally, we could not provide ourselves with all food products with such forces. Upon agreement with the Central Committee, 10 years ago they ceased increasing our meat subsidy, and all that we additionally produced would remain in the oblast. This was just, as we were not taking food from others.

Unfortunately, in the speech of the conference delegate, Comrade Ligachev, the very essence of our attitude toward the various problems of restructuring was distorted, particularly on the questions of social justice. But let this remain on the conscience of my opponent.

[Olbik] Your supporter at the conference said that Yeltsin is a hard, even cruel man. But if this is actually the case, could all your good intentions be cancelled out by this trait of your character?

[Yeltsin] I cannot explain why he said this. In Ozhegov's dictionary the word "hard" is interpreted as harsh, coarse, and abrupt. Harshness would mean an extremely severe, pitiless, merciless person. I myself cannot judge which of these definitions is most suited to me. Let my former and current colleagues debate this. I am hard or cruel. The pronounced word is perceived differently by different persons. For the touchy or supersensitive man, even the shading or intonation in which he can "pass sentence" on the one saying this word is important. An ambitious, arrogant person can respond very negatively or even aggressively to any comment. A worker who has been caught in laziness, irresponsibility, or malicious litigation and accused directly of this can call us hard or even villainous. At the given moment he does not perceive you otherwise. But I have never forgotten something else: In order to demand of others, one must be doubly demanding of oneself. Yes, when I was the

first secretary of the Moscow party organization, I worked from 8 in the morning to midnight. And I demanded that others do likewise. For many, this was impossible, and some began to grumble and accuse me of cruelty. But I did feel and do feel that in the period of restructuring, self-sacrifice is indispensable. In this sense, I can admit that I to some degree may be harsh, rather extremely demanding, but in no way cruel. For an irresponsible worker, ordinary exactingness sometimes is turned into unusual cruelty.

[Olbik] In the context of what was said above, the question comes up: Is it true, as was stated at the party conference, that one of the party raykom secretaries committed suicide because of your attitude toward him?

[Yeltsin] This man had not worked on the party raykom for a long time. When this misfortune befell him, he was working in one of the ministries. An investigation of the facts of death showed that it was in no way linked to his dismissal from the position of raykom secretary.

[Olbik] You, of course, know about the manuscript—supposedly your speech at the October (1987) Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee, which is being passed around.

[Yeltsin] Yes, I do know about this. There are three versions of the manuscript and I have read all of them. What can I say on this question? As a whole, they are false, although some of my statements have been used there. I feel that there would not be the "samizdat" articles if the speeches given at the October plenum of last year had been published. Only openness in the party leads to an understanding by the people of the essence of restructuring, all its grandioseness and necessity.

[Olbik] With your permission, let us go back to the interview of V. Korotich in MOSKOVSKIYE NOVOSTI. The foreign correspondents asked him: "Yeltsin raised the question of his political rehabilitation. But certainly he was not deprived of any civil rights and he was not sentenced for any time." The reply of V. Korotich was: "Yes, against the background of the rehabilitation of persons executed in the past, Yeltsin's demand for his political rehabilitation sounded strange. I feel that he should not be put in the same class as Bukharin or Kamanev. For this reason, when he began talking of his rehabilitation, what had previously been like a tragedy began to be reminiscent of a farce."

[Yeltsin] I do not consider myself guilty either before the party or before the people and for this reason raised the question of my political rehabilitation. This could have been done either by the party congress or the previous party conference, that is, to determine the question of my guilt or innocence. Rehabilitation is also the restoring of a previous reputation. And it was in no way essential, according to Korotich, to drain the cup of Bukharin or Kamanev to then be rehabilitated. I probably would greatly disappoint the editor of OGONEK if I gave him my word of honor that I never in this world try to put myself "on the same level as Bukharin or Kamanev." Generally speaking, I imagined the editor of the journal OGONEK a more objective man who had his own, unchanged opinion....

With this let me end our conversation and, taking advantage of the occasion, wish all the republic's journalists not to lower the pitch of the articles on restructuring. For the inhabitants of Yurmaly, let me wish them the quickest resolution of the ecological problems which, judging from everything (to live by the sea and not be able to bath in it) have become extraordinarily acute for the city, if not to say threateningly dangerous.

For Latvia as a whole, I wish painless and patiently organized international relations. I know that this problem exists here and I also know something else: The Latvians have always been marked by rare goodness and a high degree of intelligence.

[Olbik] Thank you, Boris Nikolayevich, for the talk.

Subscription Cutbacks, Paper Shortage Examined

PM0609154488 Moscow MOSCOW NEWS in English No 35, 28 Aug 88 pp 4, 13

[Andrey Romanov article: "The Press We Can't Get Hold of"]

[Text] Vladimir Lakshin's editorial "Creating artificial scarcity" (MN No, 34) about the restrictions on subscriptions for 1989 opened the floodgates. Readers' letters have been pouring in. Why should there be any fewer subscriptions for 1989 than 1988? Why all these difficulties? What will happen next?

Limited subscriptions seem to have become a thing of the past. Last year only a handful of magazines were limited: RABOTNITSA and KRESTYANKA (for women), ZA RULYOM (for motorists) and INOSTRANNAYA LITERATURA (Foreign Literature). This year virtually ALL periodicals are limited! All ten thousand Soviet periodicals except PRAVDA, SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA and five political journals.

Subscription to periodicals for 1989 will not be increased over what they were in 1988. In 41 cases—including the literary magazines MIR, DRUZHBA NARODOV, NEVA, ZNAM-YA YUNOST, OGONEK, MOLODAYA GVARDIYA and NASH SOVREMENNIK—subscriptions have actually been cut back. The official explanation is that most of the subscriptions have been available to workers at various enterprises and organizations while more copies than before will be available at newsstands.

For many of our readers the subscriptions issue is a highly emotional one. No wonder: Perestroyka and glasnost have resurrected the press. It is becoming franker, more outspoken and more interesting all the time.

Tamara Fedotkina who sells subscriptions says: "We at the Govkiy Institute of Applied Physics of the USSR Academy of Sciences were shaken by the news of our subscription cutbacks. This year we have 250 subscriptions to LITERARY GAZETTE, next year we won't have any. We have 100 subscriptions to OGONEK, next year we'll have five. We have 146 subscriptions to NOVYY MIR and 80 to DRUZHBA NARODOV, next year we'll have two each. Meanwhile we have a staff of 1,500. What's going on?"

I called Aleksandr of the Govkiy Region periodicals distribution agency. He confirmed that most subscriptions have been reserved for enterprises and organizations. Then what about the Institute of Applied Physics? Bad luck, Senichev guessed. He promised to do something about it. But the overall situation in the Gorkiy Region is tense. The 55,200 copies to LITERARY GAZETTE for 1988 have been cut back to 46,000 for 1989. OGONEK will drop from 17,000 to 14,000; NOVYY MIR from 14,000 to 12,000, etc. The Gorkiy Region has a population of nearly 3,800,000.

We queried Yevgeniy Manyakin, USSR Deputy Minister of Communications:

Q: Disgruntled readers blame the situation on your ministry. Are they right in doing so?

A: Is it right to blame a shoe shop for the absence of shoes if manufacturers are short of leather, glue and dye? These disgruntled readers obviously aren't interested in the paper shortage in this country or how the printing industry is developing. It's there that one has to look for the root of the problems. Our ministry is aware of the growing demand for periodicals. Since the 27th Party Congress (in February 1986) we've been urging the planners to remedy this situation since the paper available was barely sufficient. We did this as conscientious citizens, not because we are duty-bound.

Q.: Still it's your job to organize subscriptions. Why was the quota for Gorkiy Region so appreciably cut?

A.: This is because we planned to increase newsstand sales. This would have been in the interest of people with low incomes who cannot afford to take out subscriptions. Unfortunately we've had to abandon the idea because we've been pressured on all sides. Regions will be getting back the balance of their current quotas. Those enterprises and organizations with especially low quotas can hope for some increases. I hope post offices will also have their increased quotas. As for organizing subscriptions, if a subscriber to a publication wishes to extend his subscription he should be able to do so. Perhaps readers will let us know what arrangement they would prefer.

Q.: As you know this is the arrangement in many countries: Subscriptions are extended automatically. You simply receive an invoice if you fail to cancel your subscription by a certain date.

One of the reasons given for the limit on subscriptions is the increase in print-runs of periodicals: 20 million copies a year over the last three years. On the other hand, the increase was gradual: There wasn't any sudden jump this year.

A.: The print-runs of periodicals in 1985 increased 3.5 per cent, in 1986—4.7 per cent, in 1987—5.1 per cent, in 1988—4.2 per cent. Paper production increased at a much lower rate over the same period. The discrepancy had to show some day. So the day is here.

Q.: So the crisis was predictable. But last summer your ministry issued Order No. 360 to make taking out subscriptions conveninent—for instance, by letting people subscribe any time, not just between August 1 and October 31.

A.: This was a move to meet subscribers halfway. The order had been finalized with the publishers, the State Planning Committee and the party bodies. But by June 1 we could already see that we would have to limit subscriptions. Before that we hoped for increased imports of paper, cuts in timber exports. Sadly, Order No. 360 is a dead letter.

Q.: How did you predict the rise in demand for periodicals this year?

A.: By watching one hundred copies of OGONEK sell out in as little as 30 minutes.

The limited and "frozen" print-runs in the past gave one no idea of how popular this or that newspaper or magazine was. The unlimited subscriptions last year turned into a sort of a national referendum on the press. For the first time ever we were getting genuine feedback, which is a great help.

About the shortage of paper we are told that there are 30 kg of paper per capita in the USSR as opposed to 282 kg in the US or 222 kg in Sweden, etc. Why? We are told that several paper factories are closed for ecological reasons. What about the fact that for every 1,000 cubic metres of wood the USSR produces as little as 27.3 tons of paper, whereas the US produces 137 tons, Sweden 129 tons, Finland 167 tons. The reason is mismanagement.

Readers' letters are heartening.

They aren't gloating over yet another failure to match words with deeds. They express a sincere willingness to join in the process of perestroyka, to learn from mistakes, to look for and suggest specific remedies for the problem.

Anna Vasilenko from Kharkov writes: "For the first time in many years I have to do without ZDOROVYE (Health) magazine. They say almost all the quotas have been given to enterprises. But I'm retired. Let's make some of the most popular subscriptions available to

those who gather wastepaper for recycling the way we do with books." Pavel Samoylov from Leningrad says: "There should be cost-accounting associations formed by forestries, paper mills, print shops (of parts thereof) and publishers. As soon as they meet or come close to world standards in paper production there will be no problem with print-runs. The country won't have more paper if we sit with folded arms."

Readers suggest ways of solving the paper problem. One can only hope that those whose job it is to solve the problem also put their thinking caps on.

Press Subscription Quota System Questioned

PM0909141188 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 9 Sep 88 Morning Edition p 3

[M. Smorodinskaya article under the rubric "What We Read": "Anatomy of a Shortage"]

[Summary] The quota system for subscriptions to most newspaper and journals in the country has various negative consequences: the "artificial exclusion from reading of large social groups'"; "loss of currentness, consistency, and regularity" in information availability to people without regular access to periodicals; the emergence of "the most unlikely misconceptions and rumors" because people are incompletely informed; lack of access to contemporary literary developments; "thousands of people waiting in line at Soyuzpechat [USSR Ministry of Communications Main Administration for Distribution of Printed Matter] offices" to obtain copies of the particular journal they seek; "speculative buying and selling of preferential rights to subscription, and, tomorrow, the emergence alongside books on the 'black market' of individual issues and sets of popular magazines and Xerox copies of items."

The "organizers" of quota-governed subcriptions plead a paper shortage, but "as a responsible official representative said on television, there is only a 5 percent shortfall in the amount of paper needed for the organization of quota-free subscription. Can this be considered sufficient reason for disrupting the entire system established in recent years for the distribution of ideological, political, and literary information in the press?"

Journalists' Union, MVD Confer on Access

LD0909191688 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1700 GMT 9 Sep 88

[From the "Vremya" newscast; announcer-read TASS report]

[Text] The bureau of the all-union council for professional ethics and law at the USSR Union of Journalists has examined a number of topical issues at its expanded session.

It was noted that instances of law enforcement bodies' restricting journalists performing their professional duty in emergency situations have recently taken place. Together with representatives of the USSR Ministry of Internal Affairs the council has examined these issues and decided to work out and implement regulations governing the granting of access to journalists to the sites of extraordinary events, in order to gather information regarding what has happened.

There was also discussion of the general concept and progress of the preparation of an ethical code of Soviet journalists, the draft of which will be published in the ZHURNZLISTSKIYE NOVOSTI bulletin for its subsequent wide discussion.

There was criticism of the irresponsible attitude of (Dodolev), a correspondent of SMENA magazine, which expressed itself in violation of the ethical norms of activities of a Soviet journalist. The council stressed that it is imperative for each journalist to display great responsibility, competence, and honesty when preparing press publications and television and radio broadcasts.

Numerous complaints and statements have been reaching the all-union council. In that connection it was decided to announce that examination of the issues concerning the proof of slander, insults, and impugning a person's honor and dignity is entirely within the competence of legal bodies. The issue of bringing charges against a journalist in cases of this kind is examined by the council only when there is an appropriate court decision.

Various Obkom First Secretaries Replaced

Cherkassy's Lutak

LD1009142188 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1400 GMT 10 Sep 88

[Text] Now news from obkom plenums. Cherkassy: The Cherkassy Obkom plenum held on 9 September examined organizational issues. The plenum released Comrade Lutak from the post of first secretary of the obkom in connection with his recall to be at the disposal of the Central Committee of the Ukraine Communist Party. Comrade (Ruzhitskiy) has been elected first secretary of the Cherkassy Obkom. He has been working as a CPSU Central Committee inspector. Comrade Titarenko, second secretary of the Central Committee of the Ukraine Communist Party, spoke at the plenum.

Kustanay's Demidenko

LD1009145288 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1400 GMT 10 Sep 88

[Text] Kustanay—A plenum of the Kustanay Obkom met and examined an organizational issue on 10 September. The plenum released Comrade Demidenko from the duties of obkom first secretary in connection with his retirement.

Comrade (Knyazev), who worked as a chairman of the Executive Committee of the Alma-Ata Oblast Soviet of People's Deputies, has been elected the first secretary of the Kustanay Obkom.

Comrade Kolbin, first secretary of the Central Committee of the republic's Communist Party, spoke at the meeting.

Tashkent's Alimov

LD1009145588 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1400 GMT 10 Sep 88

[Text] Tashkent. At the Tashkent Obkom plenum which took place today an organizational issue was examined. The plenum released Comrade Alimov from his duties of first secretary of the obkom in connection with the transfer to other work.

Comrade Mirkasymov, who worked as first secretary of the Khorezm Obkom, was elected a member of the bureau and the first secretary of the obkom. Comrade Nishanov, first secretary of the Central Committee of Communist Party of Uzbekistan, spoke at the plenum.

New Khorezm Obkom Leader

LD1209112088 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1000 GMT 12 Sep 88

[Text] A plenum of the Khorezm Obkom examined organizational matters today. In connection with the election of Comrade Mirkasymov as first secretary of Tashkent Obkom, he has been released from his duties as first secretary of Khorezm Obkom. Comrade Khudaybergenova has been elected its first secretary. She worked previously as chairman of Khorezm Oblispolkom.

Comrade Nishanov, first secretary of the Uzbek Communist Party Central Committee, addressed the plenum.

Paper Reports on Latvian War Criminal Cases

PM1209091588 Moscow SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA in Russian 9 Sep 88 p 4

[Report by "our own correspondent" V. Proskura: "Occupiers' Henchmen Will Not Avoid Responsibility"]

[Text] Riga—A film crew from the British Thames Television company has been familiarized with the past of a henchman of Hitler's occupiers. An appeal to the British court from Paul Reynkhards—former director of the labor department in Latvia's occupation administration—was the reason for this. Now a Latvian emigre leader in Britain, Reynkhards was enraged by a British press publication which presented him as an ingrained Nazi criminal. P. Reynkhards is now trying to deny the revelation....

That was how British reporter Lindsay Charlton and his colleagues found themselves in Latvia. The television journalists viewed documents attesting to the Nazi butcher's crimes and met with eyewitnesses to the terrible repressions of the occupying regime. At the same time the Latvian SSR Council of Ministers news agency has published in the republic a report on another henchman of the Nazis.

In Chicago the local court has heard a case on the deportation from the United States of Konrad Kaleys, a traitor to the Latvian people. In accordance with the decision, the criminal who found sanctuary across the ocean must face a Soviet court, the court of the people of Latvia.

In the winter of 1942 the Lettish security service company which Kaleys commanded sent to a bonfire of death hundreds of totally innocent children and old men in the villages of Nasva and Sanniki. They were locked in their peasant's huts and burned. Having avoided just retribution, Kaleys has lived in the United States since 1959. Irrefutable proof of the guilt of the former SS man was sent to Chicago from the Soviet Union. In 1987 representatives of the U.S. Department of Justice special investigations department who had travelled to Latvia were acquainted with the documents in Kaleys' case. They also had the opportunity to question witnesses who were accomplices of Kaleys and have already undergone deserved punishment.

"The hearing of the deportation case has been completed," the Latvian SSR Prosecutor's Office explained. "But the verdict of the immigration judge has not yet been passed. Until then, under U.S. law, Konrad Kaleys can obtain citizenship in another country. Only if there is a universal refusal to accept him will the criminal go on trial in the USSR."

Surely there cannot be a state in the world which will be other than fastidious about giving citizenship rights to a fascist holdout, a bloody butcher? This question perturbs the public of Soviet Latvia.

Plight of Displaced Ethnic Turks Viewed

PM1209085188 Moscow TRUD in Russian 8 Sep 88 p 2

[Special correspondent V. Galenkin report under the rubric "Events and Destinies": "A Good Name"]

[Excerpts] Moscow, Tashkent, Andizhan—There were many, very many of them—edicts, resolutions, and decisions. There was one on paper that had grown yellow with age, with faded writing in old script, and there were others on glossy paper in the language of today....

There were many, very many of them—discussions and stories. Some were calm and collected, filled with sadness, others were heated and stinging—like the hot wind blowing across the desert—each word containing a grain of resentment....

Not all the documents can be cited today, not all the stories can be told. So I will cite only the most important points from the documents. And I will recount only one story, the life story of Islam Suleymanov, a Soviet Turk now living in Andizhan Oblast and working on the "Savay" Sovkhoz, who was born in Akhaltsikhskiy Rayon in the Georgian SSR.

Editorial Note: Meskhetiya—Dzhavakhetiya—is a region of Georgia. It was inhabited by Georgians and Turks. After the October Revolution Soviet power was established there and the population joined actively in building a socialist society. In the early thirties the first kolkhozes were set up in Meskhetiya. People of various nationalities worked on them side by side.... [passage omitted]

Editorial Note: At the beginning of the Great Patriotic War many young Turks volunteered for the front. A total of 40,000 people of that nationality enlisted in the Army. They fought in worthy fashion. There are Heroes of the Soviet Union among them, and many were decorated with orders and medals. Thousands of them died defending the motherland. [passage omitted]

Editorial Note: On 14 November 1944 an order was issued to evacuate citizens of Turkish nationality from the places where they were living and to resettle them permanently in Uzbekistan. No reasons were given. Two hours were allowed to round them up. Each truck was loaded with seven families. It took more than 2 months to reach the destination. People had virtually no clothes, there was an acute shortage of food, there was no medical assistance. Tens of thousands of people died on the way from hunger, cold, and disease. A total of 110,000 people were resettled.

[Islam Suleymanov] When I arrived in Georgia after the demobilization former neighbors told me about the tragedy which had befallen my people. Without a moment's hesitation, I made my way to Uzbekistan. To my great joy I found all my family alive.

Life was hard for my compatriots in Uzbekistan at first. We owe gratitude to the Uzbek people, who helped us in difficult times. They shared everything with us—the trouble, the housing, and even the last piece of bread.

When I reached my family, I took off the uniform with the decorations and set to work together with the others plowing the land, making dug-outs, digging irrigation trenches....

I will make no secret of it—I respected Stalin greatly at that time. I could not believe that it was he who had wronged my people. I thought: Malicious tongues must have insinuated that during the war Soviet Turks had conspired with Turkey, which was in a coalition with the fascists.

I looked at it this way and that.... Who should have conspired? The old men, the women, or the children perhaps? After all, the men were at the front fighting the enemy.

While I was trying to figure things out in my confusion, I was summoned to the commandant's office, placed on a list, and confined to the pale of settlement, with all the ensuing consequences. And that was that! Yet I had had no connection with Turkey. After all, I had been at the front at that time, shedding my blood and winning medals. I had joined the party at the most difficult time. I realized that this was no mistake—someone had simply found it necessary to exterminate our people. In order to justify a wrong cause they launched a crooked lie about the Turks. And, as is known, lies have crooked legs, which are sometimes long.... [passage omitted]

Editorial Note: In 1956 the edict on the forcible resettlement of the Turks and the pale of settlement was annulled. The provision on criminal punishment for unauthorized displacement was automatically quashed. From now on the Turks could live wherever they chose in the Soviet Union provided they observed passport and registration regulations. However, this was not made public. Nor was there any mention of assistance for those wishing to return to their places of birth.

[Islam Suleymanov] Quite correct. In 1956, after Stalin's death, such an edict was issued. A number of Turks left Uzbekistan and settled in the Ukraine, Russia, or Tajikistan. My sister went to Baku. Some people tried to return home. After all, we now had every right to do so, as it were. However, it turned out that we did not. For one thing, in Georgia the view had firmly taken root that we had been resettled as punishment for collaborating with Turkey, and the local population wanted nothing to do with us. And for another thing, the areas where we had lived are located in a border area which is subject to special regulations and entry without special permission is not possible, as is known. [passage omitted]

Editorial Note: Today, following a party and government decision, Turks have begun to move back to their native areas. More than 100 families have already moved. In 1988 it is planned to move another 300 families to Georgia. However, many more applications for returning home have been submitted. The transfer to areas of original settlement is being held up for both objective and subjective reasons. Objective reasons such as the need to provide housing, build roads to the villages, and organize cultural and social facilities. But

also subjective reasons. Unfortunately, among the local population in Georgia the erroneous view is current that the repressions against the Turks were not unfounded.

[Islam Suleymanov] Yes, the main thing is to shorten the legs of the lie which has been spread about us. Why make a secret of it: Many people in Georgia look at us today as if we were guilty of treason. They do so because they do not know the truth. And they receive us accordingly. Some of those who had moved there have returned to Uzbekistan.

This is why I think it essential for us—Georgians and Turks, that is—to meet and talk. I believe that our old folk would have much to remember about how they worked together and fought the fascists. It would be good if our children could sing and dance together. Maybe in this way we could in a joint effort shorten the long legs of the crooked lie, which is harming our country rather than doing it any good.

Editorial Note: By no means do all Turks living in Uzbekistan want to return to Georgia. They have put down roots in the new place. However, there is a certain section of people who claim to speak for all the Turks and who display inappropriate activeness. They are not averse to exerting pressure, they collect signatures to various letters and appeals, they incite their fellow Turks to apply for permission to return home, and they divert people from their work by organizing various meetings and rallies.

[Islam Suleymanov] Yes, there are such "champions of the Turks" among us. However, they are isolated individuals and we do not agree with them. We will resolve our problem ourselves.

Commission Announces Summer Time To End 25 Sep
LD0909151288 Moscow TASS in English 1440 GMT 9 Sep 88

[Text] Moscow Sep 9 (TASS)—The USSR State Commission of Standard Time and Standard Frequencies announces that summer time is abrogated all over the USSR territory as of September 25, 1988.

At 3 a.m. on September 25, 1988 the hour hand will be put back one hour.

Economic

Economist on 'Problem' of State Budget Deficit
PM0809142088 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 2 Sep 88 Second Edition p 2

[Article by Candidate of Economic Sciences V. Bochkov under the rubric "Opinion on an Urgent Problem": "The Budget Deficit and the Attitude of Dependence"]

[Text] The CPSU Central Committee July (1988) Plenum stressed that in the course of preparing next year's plan and budget, we must begin to reduce the budget deficit. According to economists' estimates, it amounts to many billions of rubles—approximately 15-17 percent of income. That is a large enough sum, equal to nearly one-half of all expenditure on sociocultural measures. What is the reason for this financial problem?

There are several factors that negatively influence the economy. First, there is the reduction in revenue from foreign trade because of the fall in world prices for petroleum and petroleum products—R15 billion. Second, there is the deficit not covered by commodity supplies, which arose in connection with the reduction in production of alcoholic beverages—R19 billion. Third, additional expenditure arising from the tragic consequences of the accident at the Chernobyl AES—R8 billion. This drastic fall in income happened over the last 2 years, but the origins of financial malaise lie in the defects of the economic policy of the stagnation period.

How, for instance, can the orientation toward income from large-scale sales of crude oil and other natural resources abroad be regarded as a positive phenomenon? Income from the sale of vodka should long ago have been excluded from the country's budget by virtue of its social nature, because the growth in that income reduced our main income and injured people. And what about the item consisting of income from enterprises in the form of payments for fixed capital, surplus profit, and deductions from profit? These funds were listed formally, but in real life the output from many enterprises was left lying in enormous quantities in the stores, as part of the above-norm commodity reserves. Since they could find no market, that means that no real income reached the country's coffers. For instance, stocks of commodity and material assets in the national economy total approximately 470 billion "frozen" and "unemployed" rubles.

For a long period the supplementing of the budget with large sums from foreign trade and especially from sales of liqueurs and vodka created a false prosperity in budget income. But at the same time this was probably the main cause of the fall in income levels from industry and other sectors of the national economy where a decline in efficiency took place. Compared with 1970, the profitability of industry fell by more than half, while agriculture had begun to make a loss by 1980. In subsequent years the nominal growth in profitability in this sector was achieved mainly by increasing purchase prices.

Despite constant difficulties with the income base, more than 70 percent of the country's national income is redistributed through the budget. Is this right? Why, for instance, centralize the greater part of enterprises' income, and promptly hand them back a significant proportion of the funds by way of budget finance for capital investments, for increasing circulating capital, and for other purposes? Purely budgetary expenditure is another matter: for social and cultural needs, defense, administration, or the subsidy on agricultural produce, which is planned to amount to R66 billion in 1988. Of

course, the state must have resources in the country's budget to finance capital construction in priority areas and funds for the elimination of disproportions in the national economy and other unionwide needs. But as a rule the development of sectors of the national economy should be carried out on the basis of their own resources. Now, in the conditions of the switching of enterprises to self-financing, it is necessary to set about reducing the redistribution of national income through the budget. This will free the financial system from excessive intervention in the affairs of enterprises and sectors and give the labor collectives the opportunity to use economic accountability in everything.

But for the time being, as a result of the established command-and-administer style of management, the state financial system has taken on the role of guarantor of the financing of a minimum living standard for the country's population. And at present, it transpires, a significant proportion of expenditure is financed irrespective of the real availability of income to cover it (out of USSR Gosbank funds—the increase in the population's investments, the issuing of money). In the transitional period, until the price reform has been carried out, wholesale trade in the means of production has come into force, and the new economic mechanism has been adequately assimilated at grass-roots level—during this period it will not be easy for the financial system to give up the budget as "panacea" at all levels of economic management. But the times demand that the financial system learn useful lessons from its past, when the monopoly system made it responsible for our economic ills in the eyes of the public.

Of course, our financial system deserves criticism for the excessive centralization of financial resources in the state budget, the unacceptable divorcing of the circulation of financial and credit resources from material assets, the oversaturation with means of payment, and also the retarded development of the commodity-money relationship in the country. But it is also true that the financial system is the most viable of the economic services today. Because it alone, from the top to the bottom of our economic pyramid, has links with the living cells of the national economic organism—the enterprises, organizations, institutions, ministries, and departments. It is this, in essence, which gives rise to the keen criticism of the Ministry of Finance. And if people are criticizing it, that means there must be something to criticize.

The USSR Supreme Soviet ratifies the budget. It allots and defines the economic provision for all the country's vital activity. And specific items of income and expenditure are approved. But another law is also adopted which, by rights, should be considered equally important—the Law on the State Plan for Economic and Social Development of the country. If you study it carefully, you will find that it specifies only increases on the previous year's plan. Such indicators as national income produced and real per capita income are purely for the purposes of calculation. Therefore, it is rather difficult to fulfill the plan in this form, still more so to monitor its fulfillment. And indicators themselves are not much use unless they reflect the efficiency of economic development.

The collection of indicators included in the Law on the Plan is clearly a reflection of the nature of the USSR Gosplan's work. They gather together the ministries' requests and adjust them—that is how our plan is arrived at. After that, the USSR Gosplan apparatus has little concern for the fulfillment of the plan's quantitative or qualitative indicators. It is thought that all economic questions are determined or predetermined by the USSR Gosplan. In practice, if the country's main economic organ is not responsible for the state of the economy, it cannot improve. The system of planning organs is structured from top to bottom in such a way that they only compile plans, and are not responsible for the economic development of the country or of the republic, kray, oblast, or rayon.

In my view, under the conditions of economic reform the development of the country's economy should be set through financial indicators—profit, the taxation system. And the state of the country's financial plan, budget, and balance of payments offers an objective assessment of the situation in the economy.

It was no accident that after the adoption of the Decree on the Taxation of Cooperatives the criticism was focused on that same department—the Ministry of Finance. It is supposed to regulate economic relations between population groups and the state. I do not think the problem lies in the finance department's excessive demands. The cooperative movement, it is well known, is developing unevenly. Alongside cooperative workers who create new material assets and services, elements have also sprung to life that flourish by way of speculative operations. This leads to a negative attitude everywhere among working people at enterprises toward those cooperative workers who get rich by buying up from the state trade system large quantities of meat, sugar, and other food products, as well as consumer goods. The easy earnings in such cooperatives cause an exodus of manpower from the state sector. Of course, such distortions cannot be the rule. In no country in the world are cooperative workers granted exclusive economic advantages. The state and cooperative sectors should develop on more or less equal terms. In the GDR, for instance, it is strictly laid down that any form of service should cost the client the same sum regardless of whether he goes to a state, cooperative, or private workshop. And earnings in the cooperatives are roughly the same as a worker at a state enterprise receives. I was once in Switzerland on a lengthy mission. Here cooperatives, unlike other stores selling goods on a large scale, sell their products at a price that is only 10-12 percent higher, while in our country the cooperative price is sometimes several times the state price. **Of course, cooperatives and state enterprises must be given equal conditions as regards the supply of raw**

materials, other materials, equipment, and transport services. But there should not be a difference of several hundred percent in the price of the products. And labor remuneration in the two sectors should be based on the principle that income has to be earned. Workers at state enterprise today have limited opportunities for earning in comparison with many cooperative workers. That generates unhealthy attitudes toward cooperatives in general. This is a new social contradiction for us, and should be carefully analyzed with a view to finding ways of resolving it fairly. At the same time common sense sometimes gives way to pressure from group interests. This, in my view, is what happened at the Council of Ministers Presidium session where the question of taxation on cooperatives was discussed. I agree that the Ministry of Finance draft deserved serious reproaches. But is it logical to instruct the cooperative workers themselves to complete the drawing up of the Law on the Taxation of Cooperatives? If every social group within the population is to "extort" additional income from the government, we are hardly likely to reduce the budget deficit. Meanwhile, the unjustifiably high income of certain cooperative workers is causing us additional inflation. The two sectors of our economy should develop on the basis of equal opportunities, on the principles of healthy competition.

The problem of the budget deficit is becoming more acute. Postponing its resolution means further exacerbating the country's financial position. In this situation we need an effective barrier against the departmental, dependent approach to the budget. **In this respect it would be expedient to accelerate the switching of enterprises to the second model of economic accountability (normative distribution of the income obtained after repaying material expenditure from earnings). This model is of a cost-cutting nature and offers the opportunity to go over from the centralized setting of normatives for profit and wages to a system of taxation on income and the labor remuneration fund, which will more reliably ensure the payment of real income into the budget.**

The question of reducing the share of the union budget needs careful study. This share is currently more than 58 percent. Five union republics have the role of petitioners, asking the union budget for money to finance measures envisaged by the plan. Thus from the 1988 union budget the following sums are allocated: R1.9 billion to the Uzbek SSR, R2.5 billion to the Kazakh SSR, R0.6 billion to the Kirghiz SSR, R0.4 billion to the Tajik SSR, and R0.35 billion to the Turkmen SSR. This practice has been going on for many years. In the course of implementation of the radical economic reform, as was noted at the CPSU Central Committee July (1988) Plenum, a number of management functions will be transferred to the union republics. It is expedient for republics and regions to go over to the principles of economic accountability and self-financing, which means, among other things, a reduction in contributions to the all-union budget. This will make it possible to transfer a significant share of the responsibility for the national economy's activity to their territories and increase their potential for seeking reserves to provide the population with food and consumer goods and resolve other socioeconomic problems. At the same time budgetary and economic autonomy for the regions will help overcome the attitude of dependence and help make the budget deficit less acute.

The time has come to really set about studying our defense expenditure. Of course, here the political decision will take priority. But society has an interest in knowing how efficiently the funds appropriated for defense are used. We have discovered in the national economy whole strata of inefficient expenditure of public money even where departmental, financial, and people's control existed. The closed zones of expenditure of monetary resources, which include defense expenditure, are not likely to be an exception. Yet one line of expenditure in the budget tells us very little. Supreme Soviet deputies have a right not only to know how productively the resources are used, but also to examine alternative areas of defense expenditure. As in any sector of expenditure of budget resources, in the military sector too the potential exists for savings.

In order to reduce the budget deficit it is important to utilize our foreign economic ties rationally. And that should clearly not be done through excessive sales of raw materials to the West, or through the unrestrained soliciting of credits, though this must be done within reasonable limits. The main thing is to change the structure of our imports, and in particular to redistribute purchases so as to increase the means of production (group "A") in order to boost the production of objects of consumption (group "B"). It is expedient to channel currency resources first and foremost into the radical modernization of light and food industry. (The USSR's imports of machines, equipment, and means of transport totaled R25.2 billion in 1987, of which only R2.4 billion was spent on the purchase of equipment for light and food industry.) Additional investments in this sphere are highly effective in terms of the speed with which they are recouped, are necessary for the resolution of socioeconomic tasks, and are advantageous for increasing monetary revenue for the budget. I think we should be more energetic in seeking to ensure the mutually advantageous nature of our foreign trade and other forms of international economic cooperation.

I do not claim that my arguments and proposals are beyond dispute. I only wish to stress once again: The problem of the budget deficit must be tackled without delay. The normalization of our finances and monetary circulation and the country's economic stability depend on it.

Agriculture

Regional Developments for 7-10 Sep Reported

LD1109043088 [Editorial Report] The following is a compilation of reports on agricultural developments in

the USSR carried by Moscow Domestic Service in Russian, unless otherwise indicated, on 7-10 September. GMT times of broadcasts are given in parentheses at the end of each item.

7 September

One million tonnes of grain have been sold to the state in Tselinograd Oblast, which is one-third of the annual plan. (0204)

Altay machine operators completed the threshing of grain on the penultimate, 3d million hectares today. Each day grain is harvested from more than 200,000 hectares here. Largely strong and valuable wheat varieties are arriving at the elevators. (Moscow Television Service in Russian 1200 GMT)

In the European part of the country, the harvest is coming to an end, but in the east, it is in full swing. Siberia is one of the major grain-producing areas in the east. Grain crops here occupy some 15 million hectares. By the beginning of the week, they had been cleared from nearly half this area. The work is proceeding more slowly than a year ago. Irkutsk, Tomsk, and Kemerovo Oblasts are particularly behind schedule. Large-scale sowing of winter crops has begun in the country. Kolkhozes and sovkhozes are continuing to lay in fodder and to harvest potatoes, vegetables, and flax. (1950)

8 September

Tajik farms have completed the annual plan for coarse fodder procurement. About 1.5 million tonnes have been laid in. (0204)

The mass laying in of fodder is continuing in the country. Data of the State Statistics Committee say that by the start of this week the plan for making hay was 84-percent fulfilled. The kolkhozes and sovkhozes of Lithuania and Estonia have coped with the production of this type of fodder. Haylage preparation stands at 102 percent of the plan target. The rates of silaging have increased markedly in the past few days. This is because the most favorable time for harvesting the corn has come in many oblasts. About 130 million tonnes of silage has been prepared in all, and specialists note a high quality. The fodder harvest has not had the same success everywhere this year. There is now a tense situation with fodder preparation in the Volga Valley, in the southern Urals, and on many Siberian farms. This is due to weather conditions. This year such a reserve for increasing fodder stocks as afterharvest or secondary sowing has been used fairly effectively. This has been done on more than 3 million hectares, while work is still continuing in the Central Asian republics. (1100)

9 September

The first 100,000 tonnes of cotton have reached the procurement points in Uzbekistan. (0400)

Harvesting has now moved to the east of the country. As the USSR State Statistics Committee reports, grain and pulse crops without corn have been reaped on an area of almost 92 million hectares, while grain crops have been threshed on almost 89 million hectares. The kolkhozes and sovkhozes are continuing to lay in fodder. According to data on 1 September, about 73 million tonnes of hay and about 83 million tonnes of haylage have been laid in. This is less than at the same period last year. At the same time as the harvesting, the farms are sowing winter crops. (Moscow Television Service in Russian 1130)

The mass harvesting of sugar beets has started in Orel Oblast and Tatariya. (1300)

10 September

The 100,000th tonne of cotton has arrived at Tajikistan's processing enterprises today. This is five times more than the figure for last September. (1100)

Suger Beet Harvest Set To Equal 1987 Crop

PM1209090188 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 8 Sep 88 Morning Edition p 2

["Agricultural Review" by V. Gavrichkin: "White Sugar From Black Bed"]

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] In the fields, as everyone knows, the farmers grow not sugar but sugar beets. And the crop covers quite a large area. This year, for example, 3,367,000 hectares of roots will be lifted.

The harvest promises to be a good one. According to assessments by specialists, it should be no less than last year's, when 78.9 million tonnes of sugar beets were purchased. [passage omitted]

Scientific

'Progress-38' Transport Craft Assists 'Mir' Crew

Launched 10 Sep

LD1009023088 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0216 GMT 10 Sep 88

[Text] [No dateline as received] In accordance with the program for the further work of the Mir scientific research complex, the automatic transport ship Progress-38 was launched at 0334 Moscow time on 10 September 1988 in the Soviet Union.

The aim of the launch of the ship is to deliver consumable materials and various cargoes to the piloted Mir complex.

The Progress-38 ship has been put in an orbit with the parameters:
Maximum distance from the earth's surface—267 km;
Minimum distance from the earth's surface—193 km;
Period of orbit—88.8 minutes;

Inclination—51.6 degrees.

According to telemetric information, the on-board systems of the automatic transport ship are working normally.

Flight According to Plan

LD1109204388 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1400 GMT 11 Sep 88

[Text] It is possible that the Cosmonauts Vladimir Titov, Musa Manarov, and Valeriy Polyakov, who are continuing their watch on board the "Mir" scientific research complex, are also listening to this bulletin with us. Today the crew is resting. In the morning the cosmonauts met their friends and relatives, who had come to the flight control center, in television communication sessions. During the day they listen to "Mayak" bulletins and music and engage in physical exercises.

The flight of the automatic transport craft "Progress-38," which took off in the night yesterday [10 September] is continuing. After a correction had been carried out, it moved into a higher orbit.

The flight of the "Mir" station and the space transport is proceeding in accordance with the planned program.

Docks With 'Mir' Complex

LD1209053288 Moscow TASS in English 0530 GMT 12 Sep 88

[Text] Moscow September 12 TASS—The Progress-38 transport docked with the Mir manned complex today at 5 hours 22 minutes Moscow time.

Mutual search, approach, mooring and docking were conducted with the help of the on-board automatic systems. These processes were controlled by the Mission Control Centre in cooperation with the ground command-and-measuring complex, as well with Cosmonauts Titov, Manarov and Polyakov.

Progress-38 was docked with the complex from the side of the Kvant module. It brought the supplies of fuel for the united propulsion system of the station, foodstuffs, equipment, apparatus and mail.

According to telemetric information and reports by the crew, the on-board systems of the Mir manned complex function normally.

Vladimir Titov, Musa Manarov and Valeriy Polyakov feel fine.

Cosmonauts Unload Spacecraft

LD1209101688 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0600 GMT 12 Sep 88

[Text] The crew of the "Mir" scientific research complex, just as other people, have started their working week. Today the cosmonauts have begun to unload the "Progress-38" automatic transport spacecraft, which docked with the station early this morning. In its freight compartment it is carrying 300 kg of food including fresh vegetables and fruit, new scientific equipment, equipment for the base unit, instruments, and medical equipment. In the compartment there are also fuel and oxidizers for the propulsion system of the station, air, and oxygen. The delivery's total weight is more than 2 tons. The flight is proceeding according to the set schedule.

Vladimir Titov, Musa Manarov, and Valeriy Polyakov are in good health and feel well.

'Cosmos-1968' Satellite Launched 9 Sep

LD1009065988 Moscow TASS in English 0650 GMT 10 Sep 88

[Text] Moscow September 10 TASS—On Friday the Soviet Union blasted off another satellite, Cosmos-1968, with a carrier rocket Soyuz.

The satellite carries scientific equipment to continue explorations of the earth's natural resources in the interests of various sectors of the Soviet economy and international cooperation.

The satellite is put into orbit with the following parameters:
Initial period of revolution—88.7 minutes,
Apogee—262 km,
Perigee—192 km,
Orbital inclination—82.3 degrees.

Apart from scientific equipment, the satellite has a radio system for precise measuring of the orbit's elements and a radio system to transmit data to the earth on the operation of instruments and scientific equipment.

Equipment installed on the satellite operates smoothly.

Incoming information is transmitted to the state scientific and production centre called Priroda of the Chief Geodesy and Cartography Administration at the USSR Council of Ministers for processing and use.

Communication Lost With 'Phobos-1' Spacecraft

LD0909174888 Moscow TASS in English 0922 GMT 9 Sep 88

["Phobos Stations on Their Way to Mars"—TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow September 9 TASS—TASS reports from the Flight Control Centre:

The automatic interplanetary stations Phobos-1 and Phobos-2 continue their flight to Mars. In the two months that elapsed after the blast-off, the space probes performed 75 radio communications sessions during which measurings of trajectory parameters were made and operation of onboard systems and scientific equipment was monitored.

On September 2 another planned session of radio communication with the Phobos-1 station failed to materialize. At the time the station was 17 million kilometres from the earth. The monitoring group examines possible reasons for the failure and takes measures to restore comunications.

The Phobos-2 station continues its travel along the trajectory close to the predicted one. On September 9 it was 19 million kilometres from the earth. According to transmitted information, onboard systems and instrumentation of the Phobos-2 station function smoothly.

During the flight along the Earth-Mars route, data on physical processes taking place on the sun and in interplanetary space were received with instruments mounted on the stations. Along with Soviet scientists, researchers of countries participants in the project and of the European Space Agency take part in processing and analysing scientific information.

Soviet-French Space Mission To Begin 21 Nov

LD1209091688 Moscow World Service in English 0700 GMT 12 Sep 88

[Text] The crew of the orbital complex "Mir" have begun preparations to receive the 15th international expedition. That will be the second Soviet-French space flight.

In an interview for Radio Moscow, one of the flight directors, Vladimir Solovyev, said the international crew will take off on 21st November. There will be two Soviet cosmonauts and one French spaceman.

Joint research on the orbit is to continue for a whole month. Also taking part in the experiments will be the Dr Valeriy Polyakov, who arrived at the "Mir" station at the end of last month together with the Soviet-Afghan crew. The two other members of that crew, Vladimir Lyakhov and Mohmand 'Abdullah Ahad from Afghanistan, recently returned to earth. As for Valeriy Polyakov, he stayed on at the station with Vladimir Titov and Musa Manarov, who have been working there for many months now.

Military

Baltic Fleet Exercises Held 6-8 Sep

LD0909140288 Moscow TASS in English 1259 GMT 9 Sep 88

[Text] Tallinn September 9 (TASS)—By TASS special correspondent Vladimir Isachenkov:

A missile cruiser and two escort ships were sailing over a mine field, following mine-sweepers. Hardly had they passed the dangerous area and taken up formation, as "enemy" strafing jets roared over them. The ships responded with a missile volley and intense antiaircraft artillery fire.

This was one of the scenes which Soviet and foreign journalists could see at an exercise of the Baltic Fleet. The exercise was held in the northeastern part of the Baltic in Soviet territorial waters on September 6-8.

"We were waiting for an arrival for the exercise of observers from the GDR, Denmark, Iceland, Norway, Poland, Finland, the FRG, and Sweden which had been officially invited by the Soviet Foreign Ministry back in July," says Admiral Vitaliy Ivanov, commander of the Baltic Fleet. "However, the invitations were answered only by the GDR and Poland, while Denmark, the FRG and neutral Sweden preferred to dispatch reconnaissance ships to the border of Soviet territorial waters. The USA and other NATO countries reject the very idea of talks on cutting navies and spreading confidence measures to navies."

This position of the West is explained by the fact that the NATO countries exceed the Warsaw Treaty countries in the strength of naval personnel by 4.5 times, the number of ocean-going ships 7.6 times, and the gross tonnage of ships 3 times. The U.S. "new sea strategy" presupposes establishment of control over all areas of the world ocean. Ocean-going ships make up 65 per cent in the ship composition of the U.S. Navy, and ships of coastal operation, 6 per cent.

On the contrary, the Soviet Navy, apart from submarines with ballistic missiles which are subject to talks on cutting strategic weapons, is assigned for the defence of Soviet coast. 52 per cent of warships are vessels of coastal operation and only 12 per cent are ocean-going ships. The USA assesses the Soviet-proposed measures on limiting naval activities as "unbalanced" due to U.S. superiority in ocean-going ships.

Admiral Ivanov told journalists that in line with the defensive doctrine declared by the Warsaw Treaty countries, the Baltic Fleet forces are primarily of coastal operation and are assigned for the defence of Soviet coast. Therefore, the fleet's exercises have been held only in the proximity to Soviet naval bases on the Baltic.

West Sends 'Reconnaissance Ships'

LD0709214988 Moscow TASS in English 2054 GMT 7 Sep 88

[Text] Tallinn September 8 TASS—TASS correspondent Vladimir Isachenkov reports:

Soviet and foreign journalists present at the exercises of the Baltic Fleet watched a fight of a submarine of the "blue" against two patrol ships of the "red" on Wednesday. After the patrol ships "Bditelnyy" and "Svirepyy" spotted the submarine, it had no alternative to attacking. A cloud of smoke appeared on the horizon, and then signal flare rockets traced the road of a torpedo to target. The torpedo attack proved precise, but the retaliatory strike of the ships, a salvo from depth-charge rocket launchers "hit" the submarine.

Besides representatives of the GDR and Poland and the group of journalists the exercises were watched from reconnaissance ships of NATO countries: the West German depot ship Neckar, the Danish frigate Fischer and the Swedish reconnaissance ship Orion which reached the boundary of the Soviet territorial waters. The frigate Fischer was at a distance of a few miles from the area of the exercises, and the journalists could clearly see the ship through field-glasses. The aerials of radars revolving of its masts attested clearly to the interest shown in operations of the Soviet ships.

Back in July the USSR Foreign Ministry extended official invitations to watch the exercises of the Baltic Fleet to observers from countries of the region: the GDR, Denmark, Iceland, Norway, Poland, Finland, the FRG and Sweden. But only the GDR and Poland gave positive answers. The Western countries rejected the invitation stating that the Soviet initiative goes beyond the framework of the decisions of the Stockholm conference. They also referred to the fact that the procedure of the exchange of the observers of naval exercises has not yet been worked out, so the implementation of this Soviet initiative could wait. Instead of the observers, the Western countries preferred to send reconnaissance ships into the area of the exercises.

Fleet Commander Comments

LD0709184688 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1605 GMT 7 Sep 88

[Text] Moscow, 7 Sep (TASS)—"The exercises of the Baltic Fleet, which began on 6 September, are conducted first and foremost with the aim of practicing and perfecting the tasks of defending the Soviet coast," said Vitaliy Ivanov, commander of the Baltic Fleet. The Soviet Government, he stressed in a discussion with a TASS correspondent, striving to strengthen confidence on the seas, invited foreign representatives of Baltic countries to observe the progress of these maneuvers. Unfortunately, the NATO countries did not respond to this proposal. Only observers from PPR and GDR have arrived for the maneuvers. From the other Baltic countries only journalists have arrived to observe the progress of the maneuvers.

As is well known, Denmark and the FRG have sent reconnaissance vessels to the region of the exercises. The absence of observers from the North Atlantic states and the deployment in the direct proximity of the maneuvers of reconnaissance vessels is linked by Soviet specialists with a trend that has been taking shape recently: a striving by the United States and its allies to depart from the talks on these kinds of weapons, in which they have an advantage. In particular, the United States is attempting not to permit talks on reducing naval forces and is opposing establishment of verification of the activity of naval fleets. This was confirmed by Frank Carlucci, who was recently on an official visit in the USSR. Speaking on 1 August in the military academy of the General Staff of the USSR Armed Forces, he said that the United States does not intend to reduce its naval forces or limit their activity. The U.S. naval forces, according to him, are carrying out purely defensive functions.

However, according to Marshal of the Soviet Union Sergey Akhromeyev, chief of General Staff of the USSR Armed Forces, the U.S. naval forces have far exceeded the limits necessary for defense. His article, published recently in "PRAVDA," notes that there is approximate parity in missile-carrying nuclear submarines—USSR 6, United States 8—but the United States has far more oceangoing vessels—65, compared with 12 possessed by the USSR. The U.S. forces are intended mainly for active offensive operations. In the structure of the U.S. forces the main place is held by strike systems: nuclear submarines and battleships armed with long-range cruise missiles, powerful amphibian forces capable of transferring marine formations over large distances. NATO surpasses the Warsaw Pact in strength of staff by 4.5 times, and in numbers of oceangoing vessels by 7.6 times.

Pointing out that the Warsaw Pact countries do not intend to encroach on the security interests of the United States and NATO, Marshal Akhromeyev outlined specific proposals to reduce the level of military presence and intensity of military activity in various regions of the world's oceans.

Commander's News Conference

LD0709222788 Moscow TASS in English 2143 GMT 7 Sep 88

[Text] Tallinn September 8 TASS—TASS correspondent Vladimir Isachenkov reports:

"The Soviet Union holds that the problem of the reduction of naval forces should also be discussed in the present conditions when negotiations on the reduction of armed forces and conventional armaments in Europe are conducted," said Admiral Vitaliy Ivanov, commander of the Baltic Fleet. He spoke here on Wednesday evening at a news conference in connection with the exercises of the Baltic Fleet held now.

The world ocean is a zone where large naval groups of NATO and the Warsaw Treaty get into contact. Therefore the risk of an outbreak of military conflict is particularly great there, the admiral said. However, having the advantage in the offensive naval forces, the preponderance in missile armaments, the United States sidesteps the very idea of the reduction of naval forces and avoids any talks about this. [Word indistinct] is striving for the lessening of tension in the Baltic Sea. A concrete programme of measures in this area was set out in the speech Mikhail Gorbachev made in Murmansk.

The exercises of the Baltic Fleet are held only close to Soviet naval bases, the commander said. Meanwhile action of the United States and other NATO countries increase tension in the Baltic. The exercises of their

naval forces are held close to Soviet territorial waters, in the area east of the Borgholm Island. NATO planes fly on missions from the airfields in Jutland into areas of the Soviet naval bases of Baltiysk and Liepaja. U.S. battleship of the Iowa type armed with cruise missiles with a range of about 2,600 km enter the Baltic Sea.

The forces of the Baltic Fleet are meant for ensuring the defences of Soviet territorial waters, Admiral Ivanov said. "As the commander of the fleet I can say that the quantitative composition of the Baltic Fleet is not built up", he stressed. "What is more, it is reduced when ships whose service life ended are removed from the composition of the fleet. They are replaced with the vessels of only those classes that are written off, and in the same numbers. As to the correlation of forces in the Baltic, it is approximately even, naturally, if the naval forces of the USA and France are not taken into account".

Paper Describes Exercise

PM1209090788 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 9 Sep 88 Second Edition p 1

[Report by Captain 2d Rank A. Pilipchuk and Senior Lieutenant I. Onopko: "Exercise in the Baltic"]

[Text] An exercise for Baltic Fleet forces under the leadership of Admiral V. Ivanov, fleet commander, was held in the northeast part of the Baltic 6 through 8 September. Involved in the exercise were 32 warships and 26 aircraft and helicopters.

The military observers from the GDR and Poland and the representatives of the mass media from Britain, the GDR, Poland, Norway, the FRG, and Sweden who came for the exercise immediately received all the information of interest to them. In particular, Adm V. Ivanov exchanged views with the GDR and Polish military observers on the practical activities of fleets in implementing the Warsaw Pact countries' defensive doctrine. Rear Admiral Ye. Chebanov, the fleet's deputy commander for combat training and chief of the combat training directorate, pointed out at a briefing for foreign and Soviet journalists that their presence at the exercise will serve to deepen trust and mutual understanding among the peoples of the states of the Baltic region.

Before the start of the tactical exercise, foreign journalists went on board the hydrographic ship "Vizir," and, after crossing Tallinn Roads, arrived at the place where the fleet forces rode at anchor. The press representatives' still and video cameras were trained unimpeded on modern missile boats, patrol vessels, and other ships. At the first stage of the tactical exercise the military observers and journalists witnessed the actions of heterogeneous fleet forces.

ASW aircraft detected a submarine of the opposing side. The contact was passed to ships in a search and attack group which included the patrol vessels "Bditelnyy," "Svirepyy," and others. The "Bditelnyy's" sonar operators—Warrant Officer O. Moskalenko, Petty Officer 1st Class A. Avgustovich, and seaman A. Mayor—got a firm "hold" on the underwater "enemy." But the opposing side also acted very energetically: The submarine made a torpedo strike on the "Bditelnyy." Meanwhile, the patrol vessel "Svirepyy" hit the submarine with depth charges....

During the exercise the GDR and Polish military observers who were on board the "Bditelnyy" enquired about the combat use of forces, tactics in using weapons, and the work of the command posts of the ship search and attack group and of individual ships. The GDR representatives asked to be given the set of documents drawn up for the exercise, while the Polish observers were interested in the system for training officer personnel.

Foreign news media correspondents showed special interest in the ships' combat potential, the personnel training methods, and the Baltic Fleet's development prospects. Exhaustive answers were given to all the military observers' and foreign journalists' questions.

At the second stage of the tactical exercise those invited could also see the role of the Baltic Fleet in guarding the coast, in accordance with the defensive thrust of our military doctrine. They observed ships being escorted behind sweep gear and aerial and underwater "enemy" attacks being repulsed. In the course of firing missiles and artillery and using mine and antimine weapons, the Baltic sailors displayed readiness and the ability to defend our motherland's sea borders.

It is hard to say what will be the reaction of the foreign press to the events that occurred, but one thing sticks in our memory: The representatives of the Western press were sincerely grateful for the opportunity granted them to observe how the Warsaw Pact countries' defensive concept is realized in practice.

Commentary by Adm V. Ivanov, commander of the Baltic Fleet:

The exercise which has just ended was unusual. It took place under the sign of a Soviet initiative which bears the fundamentally new nature of a good example. The Soviet Government informed the Governments of the GDR, Denmark, Iceland, Norway, Poland, Finland, the FRG, and Sweden of the holding of the exercise for Baltic Fleet forces and invited two observers from each country for the period of its active phase.

This new practical step in the history of the activity of military fleets is very important. Our country has not only advanced the concept of new political thinking but also begun implementing this itself, including broader glasnost in the sphere of military activity. Of course, comparable steps by NATO would serve as evidence of greater mutual understanding. However, despite the Soviet side's invitation, military observers from Western

countries did not attend the exercise. One can only be perplexed at this, particularly because Danish, Swedish, and FRG ships and vessels were constantly close to the region where the Baltic Fleet exercise was taking place.

The exercise which has just concluded enabled everyone to take a practical step toward the positive resolution of this question and to test in practice the confidence-building measures which do not yet exist but which must be striven for. The GDR and Polish observers and the numerous foreign journalists familiarized themselves with the actions of the fleet's forces in defending the coast and in fighting a sea battle with an enemy naval force. The exercise took place in an organized manner and was of great benefit in further enhancing the fleet's combat readiness.

Troop Exercise in Belorussia 17-22 Sep

LD0909162488 Moscow TASS in English 1559 GMT 9 Sep 88

[Text] Moscow September 9 TASS—It was officially announced here that a troop exercise of the Belorussian Military District will be held in the territory of the Belorussian Soviet Socialist Republic in the period from September 17 to September 22 in the area of Dubrovo, Shatsk, Berezino, Ulla. The purpose of the exercise is to upgrade field training standard of troops.

Units of land forces and air forces will participate in the exercise. The total numerical strength of troops participating in the exercise will be 21,000.

In accordance with the document of the Stockholm conference, the USSR Government invited observers from all participating countries in the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe to watch the exercise.

Officials Commemorate Tank Troops Day

Ivanovskiy Attends Ceremony

LD0909213988 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1950 GMT 9 Sep 88

[Text] A ceremonial meeting of representatives of the Moscow public and the city's military garrison devoted to Tank Troops Day was held on 9 September at the Frunze central house of the Soviet Army. Speaking at the meeting, Army General Ivanovskiy, commander in chief of the ground forces and USSR deputy minister of defense, emphasized that Soviet tank drivers, like the entire staff of the USSR Armed Forces, are religiously carrying out their military and international duty and are doing everything possible to strengthen the reliability and might of the armored shield of the Land of the Soviets.

Tank Troops Chief Interviewed

LD1109200788 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0800 GMT 11 Sep 88

[From the "Time, Events, and People" program; interview with Lieutenant General Aleksandr Aleksandrovich Galkin, head of the Main Armored Directorate of the USSR Ministry of Defense, by correspondent Aleksandr Abramov—presented by Natalya Vartanyan]

[Text] [Vartanyan] Today is Tank Troops Day. From armored motorized detachments and armored trains to one of the main arms of the land forces—such is the glorious path of development of the Tank Troops. And our famous T-34 was acknowledged to be the best tank during the war. A total of 1,142 members of the Tank Troops were awarded the title Hero of the Soviet Union, and 16 of them won it twice over. Tank builders also made a great contribution to the victory; they gave to the front over 100,000 tanks and self-propelled artillery installations. And what of the modern tank troops? Our correspondent Aleksandr Abramov talks about this with Lieutenant General Aleksandr Aleksandrovich Galkin, head of the Main Armored Directorate of the USSR Ministry of Defense:

[Abramov] We know quite a lot about the role of the Tank Troops during the war: There was the famous battle near Prokhorovka, the march on Prague, and so forth. But what is the role of the Tank Troops in the modern army? We know that our doctrine now is a defensive one, yet I would have thought that the tank is an offensive weapon. Well, one could, of course, bury it in a trench up to the gun barrel, so to speak, but I do not think it was intended for that.

[Galkin] Well, on the political level, our military doctrine has always had a defensive orientation. In modern conditions it has simply been further developed. The main essence of the military-technological aspect of the doctrine consists in constant readiness to repulse any aggression and in ensuring immediate action in response. In regard to the second aspect of use of the Tank Troops, I would like to say that given the great striking power of tanks, tank units and formations are indeed to a greater degree intended for offensive operations.

[Abramov] And the speed of modern tanks is relevant here, too.

[Galkin] Indeed, modern tanks can attain speeds of around 50-60 km an hour in combat conditions. Here, though, I would like to dwell on examples from the Great Patriotic War. Starting from the Battle of Kursk—and there was Moscow and Stalingrad before that—there are many examples of using tank formations to hold defensive lines. That is, having a high level of armed protection, they make the defense able to withstand nuclear weapon strikes, air strikes, and in particular strikes by opposing tanks. Thanks to their high mobility, the

defense becomes more active and maneuverable. A second quality that tanks have is this high level of maneuverability which, in conjunction with a high striking power, makes it possible to give them the task of destroying airborne assault landings. The third aspect is that the defenders' tanks, that is, second-line tanks, can be used to close up breaches or rapidly to replace first-echelon forces which have lost their combat effectiveness.

In a word, it seems to me that tank formations are capable of creating a stable screen in the shortest possible time, even on unprepared terrain and even immediately in areas where nuclear weapons are being used.

[Abramov] Thank you. I think that is convincing. Allow me to ask you a question about the future, Aleksandr Aleksandrovich.

[Galkin] Of course.

[Abramov] Now, if the Warsaw Pact and NATO countries come to agreement on reducing conventional weapons in Europe, we shall evidently have to reduce tank troops, shall we not?

[Galkin] Yes, of course.

[Abramov] We are now witnessing the reduction and elimination of medium-range missiles. And you know, when one sees on television or in cinema newsreels the cost of demolishing missiles, one thinks on the one hand that this is indeed a good thing; but on the other hand, the labor of magnificent engineers and workers is going up in smoke. What will happen to tanks if we come to agreement on eliminating them?

[Galkin] Well, as a tank crewman, I find it a bit unpleasant to talk about destroying tanks, because this holds....

[Abramov interrupts] It's your whole life, after all.

[Galkin] Yes, my whole life, and not only mine but that of many officers and many tank designers. But I can say just one thing; namely, that we shall not blow up and destroy our tanks. If this issue does indeed come up, and if we do indeed turn out to have surplus tanks, we shall of course cut them. But we plan to make use of our tanks for other purposes, in the interests both of the Ministry of Defense and of the national economy.

[Abramov] Yes, I wanted to ask you whether anything would go to the national economy.

[Galkin] Yes, if there is a reduction in the tank pool, we plan to transfer them to the national economy. For instance, the Ministry of the Timber Industry is asking for tanks to be used as fire engines for our eastern regions, where there are forests and where, unfortunately, one frequently comes across forest fires. This is one direction.

The second direction is to use our tanks—or more accurately the tank bases, without the tank turret weapon, of course—for road construction in the non-Chernozem Zone.

[Abramov] Well, this is your possible future, so to speak, and ours too. But to continue our conversation about the present day. Aleksandr Aleksandrovich, as you know, every high-ranking military leader who has spoken on the radio here has always spoken about the people of the branch of the armed services he represented. You will be no exception, I think, all the more so in that the profession of a tank crewman really is one of the most difficult in the Armed Forces, in our Army.

[Galkin] Thank you, Aleksandr Levovich. Well, first, I do not think I am a high-ranking military leader, but I nevertheless am pleased that you have asked that question, because we do indeed have such splendid people. We tank crewmen ourselves at one time learned by the example of front-ranking people and by front-ranking experience in the use of tank troops. We have splendid examples: Marshal Rybalko, Marshal Katukov, Marshal Polybayarov, Rotmistrov, Babadzhanyan, and other eminent Tank Troop commanders, whose experience we are still drawing on today.

And we have also learned from that experience, and we are trying to teach our successors, the young corps of officers of the tank forces. I can name today very many splendid people, good commanders and excellent professional tank crewmen, such as Colonel Anatoliy Ivanovich Grigorash, commander of a tank regiment, a delegate to our party's 27th congress, and a great master of combat proficiency. His regiment has been awarded the Challenge Red banner of the district military council for the last 5 years. I could name Major Nikolay Ivanovich Budayev, commander of a tank battalion, an enterprising and persistent officer in the fulfillment of the tasks imposed on him. He has fulfilled his internationalist duty in Afghanistan and has been awarded the Order of the Red Star; Anatoliy Nikolayevich Listopad, commander of a tank regiment, who has been awarded the Order of the Red Star and the Order for Service to the Motherland in the USSR Armed Forces for successful fulfillment of his internationalist duty, along with his regiment. And in the same regiment with him there is Senior Lieutenant Aleksey Aleksandrovich Goncharov, commander of a tank company; he is a enterprising officer, who constantly thinks not only about strengthening the company's combat readiness but also about the state of tank affairs in general. I would like to name Viktor Nikolayevich Yuriyev, commander of a tank training platoon, a captain, a splendid educator of tank crewmen.

[Abramov] I shall be glad to present you with the microphone, because I think that you, Aleksandr Aleksandrovich, have something to say for the holiday both to tank crewmen and to tank constructors, and simply to civilians. Go ahead.

[Galkin] I would like today to express great gratitude and say a big thank you to our workers, engineers, and designers, the creators of our tank forces, for their enormous contribution to the business of Soviet tank-building. They have shown, in the prewar, wartime, and postwar periods, that the Soviet school of tank-building is the best school of tank-building in the world. I would like to congratulate on this day all tank crewmen, both those who have seen action and those who have not, both the young and those who went through the Great Patriotic War, on Tank Troops Day, and to wish them strong health and great happiness.

Violations of Soldiers' Honor, Dignity Scored

PM0809091688 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 4 Sep 88 Second Edition p 3

["PRAVDA Military Department" article under the rubric "We Serve the Soviet Union!": "On Honor and Dignity"]

[Text] From time immemorial these concepts—honor and dignity—have always held a special place in our army's officer corps. Many examples could be cited of shining displays of the lofty commandments of human morality. One of them, a very recent one, is the feat of military airman Colonel A. Rutskoy, about whom PRAVDA wrote recently. The internationalist serviceman was shot down in the Afghan-Pakistani border region. He spent 3 days making his way back to his lines, but was caught by the rebels and taken across into Pakistan. In these extreme conditions the Soviet officer lost neither honor nor dignity, but showed courage and staunchness.

Unfortunately the editorial mail also bears witness to cases of a different kind.

"In August last year I was sentenced to 2 years' imprisonment by the Moscow garrison military tribunal," V. Murashko writes to the editorial office, "but on 10 March 1988, by a decision of the USSR Supreme Court Military Collegium, the court's sentence on me was revoked and the criminal case dismissed on the grounds of the absence of elements of crime in the act...."

This should be gratifying—justice triumphed. But by all appearances the author of the letter does not feel gratified. He reports his adventures bitterly: how his case was fabricated, how he repeatedly appealed to the Main Military Prosecutor's Office, and in response received stereotyped replies that "the sentence was imposed lawfully and with reason...and there are no grounds for revoking it."

"Who, if not the prosecutor's office," V. Murashko asks, "should first and foremost defend my honor and my dignity as a citizen of the USSR? Not infrequently an honest person proves defenseless in the face of boorishness, lawlessness, and outright mockery and insults."

This case is doubtless atypical, but unfortunately it is far from isolated. The editorial office receives many letters on this subject. But here is a characteristic feature: Officers almost never write about verbal insults—apparently they are used to it. They write mainly when it becomes impossible not to write. When the concepts of justice and decency are being grossly flouted, when dirt and slander are raining down on an honest man....

"Shouting, insults, unprintable abuse—this so-called 'leadership style,'" political worker Ye. Baranov writes, "apparently pursues the one goal of strangling at birth a person's concept of honor and dignity, and that means stifling his personality and turning him into an obedient yes-man."

A resolute struggle has now been declared on that style of leadership. But sometimes it still makes its presence felt.

Something of the kind happened quite recently in the Afghan provincial center of Qandahar. On the last day prior to the withdrawal of our troops from there. By then the garrison camp had already been handed over to the Afghan Army and the Soviet subunits were stationed in the desert under the burning sun. The battalion commanded by Lieutenant Colonel V. Dunayev was on combat duty in Qandahar until the very last day. The day before, the battalion lost three soldiers who were killed, while six were wounded. You can imagine the mood of the boys, who had to safeguard the withdrawal of our troops from Qandahar—the "hornets' nest" of counterrevolution—on the following day.

In this frankly difficult situation unit commander Colonel N. Grishin called an inspection parade. He called it for 1600—the hottest time. Checking machinery, weapons, readiness for the march was, of course, necessary. But first of all, the commander arrived for the parade...late. The men were standing for nearly 2 hours in helmets and flak jackets under the burning rays of the sun. And the inspection was confined to loud, unprintable abuse of the officers in the presence of their subordinates. Yet the very next day these officers had to start a difficult march together with their subordinates. It is no wonder that afterwards no one had a single good word to say about the commanding officer—neither officers nor men. Neither about him, nor about his deputy for political affairs, Lieutenant Colonel N. Epoletov. And not only for that one instance....

Nothing is so insulting as the flouting of human dignity and blackening of a good name. This certainly cannot fail to have a negative influence on morale in military collectives. We can hardly speak of marked successes for restructuring in the Armed Forces until the original ideas of the honor and dignity of the serviceman—the motherland's defender—are restored everywhere.

Obituary of Navy Training Chief Bondarenko

PM1209094388 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 9 Sep 88 Second Edition p 4

[Obituary of G.A. Bondarenko]

[Excerpts] Admiral Grigoriy Alekseyevich Bondarenko, Hero of Socialist Labor, deputy commander in chief of the Navy for combat training, and chief of combat training, has

died suddenly. He devoted his entire conscious life to selflessly serving the socialist motherland and the Communist Party, whose ranks he joined in 1943.

G.A. Bondarenko was born 7 May 1921 into a worker's family in the city of Krivoy Rog in Dnepropetrovsk Oblast. [passage omitted]

In the postwar period he commanded a destroyer, and a brigade and a division of surface ships. After graduating from the K.Ye. Voroshilov Military Academy of the USSR Armed Forces General Staff in 1962, he served as chief of staff and first deputy commander of the [Black Sea] Fleet. From 1973 he served as deputy commander in chief of the Navy for combat training and chief of combat training. [passage omitted]

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